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Arab-Israeli Talks

Jordan and Israel have reached an "agreement in principle" on building al-Wahdah Dam, a joint project with Syria that was previously halted because of "Israeli threats," the UAE paper AL-BAYAN disclosed.

Iraq

General Husayn Kamil Hasan was sworn in as adviser to Saddam Husayn in a 3 May ceremony, INA reported. A number of other senior officials were also sworn into their new posts. In another development, Baghdad accused Iran of delaying the repatriation of Iraqi POW's, INA reported. Meanwhile, the daily AL-THAWRAH assailed Syria for "directly contributing" to Israel's "human base for the Zionist plan" through its recent decision to permit the free travel of Jews. In its 30 April commentary, the paper said the al-Asad regime "has run out of fig leaves," INA noted.

Israel

The IDF chief of staff reacted "sharply" to an Israeli TV report on the army's shooting policy in the territories, Tel Aviv radio reported. Lieutenant General Ehud Baraq called the TV report on alleged indiscriminate shooting by IDF undercover units "mistaken and misleading."

Lebanon

Syrian forces will "in due time" take a series of steps leading to a partial withdrawal from Beirut, according to a report in AL-RAQIB magazine citing "political sources close to Damascus," the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon noted. AL-RAQIB is owned by Prime Minister 'Umar Karami.

Palestinian Affairs

Hanan 'Ashrawi termed the Washington talks "extremely difficult," noting Israel's "deliberate" intention of blocking progress, and said Israeli negotiators "wasted their time" and "our time," Jordan television reported. Meanwhile, Yasir 'Arafat delivered a May Day address broadcast by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio in which he said Palestinians "remain committed" to the peace talks.

Afghanistan

Afghan Interim President Sebghatollah Mojaddedi delivered the Friday prayer sermon at Pol-e Kheshti Mosque on 1 May, Kabul Radio reported. Mojaddedi said the government has declared a general amnesty and that "God will guide those brothers who have deviated from the path so that they come to the right path and pass the rest of their life in the service of Islam," according to the radio. Meanwhile, AFP reported that former Chief Justice 'Abdol Karim Shahdan has been assassinated. The government subsequently issued a statement, broadcast on Kabul radio, strongly condemning the "assassination and the abduction of a number of people."

Arab-Israeli Talks

Jordan's al-Majali on Outcome of Latest Talks

JN0105134692 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 1 May 92

[Statement made by Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, in Washington; date not given—recorded]

[Text] The peace negotiations are lengthy, difficult, and complicated. Negotiations are not like a military offensive taking only hours or days, leading to either victory or defeat. Negotiations begin with each side clarifying to the other side the extent of the possibilities he can offer regarding the issue under consideration. This matter needs time—days and months—during which each side is gradually exposed to the other side. These matters are not revealed on the first day of the first session, or even during the second or third sessions. They require a good deal of time. These matters, like other matters in human existence, require practice so that you can trust the other side and the other side can trust you and that what you are saying is true, correct, logic, rational, and studied. These matters do not come quickly. Sometimes I am surprised by the media, which desire a new achievement to herald each and every day. These matters cannot be calculated by hours, weeks, or months. These matters need time to ripen.

If we take this into account, we can say that all these past months have proven some basic facts, beginning with Madrid and ending with this round in Washington. Regarding the issue of the Palestinian and the Jordanian tracks, I am repeating these words because we have to repeat them. [sentence as heard] If we do not repeat and emphasize them time and time again, the process may falter. Therefore, we always stress this point. The other matter is that we are always trying to refute the other side's strategy; a strategy based on Arab rejection. We come here, listen patiently and carefully, and reiterate our demands and our legitimate rights. We also sense from time to time that there has been a change in one position or another. Sometimes, it is a change in the principle itself. They are convinced of what you are doing, but they want to put it in a different formula. This often happens. Similarly, the other side insists on other issues, but you feel that the whole operation is that the other side still believes that the Arabs are not serious. The other side needs time to be convinced that the Arabs are serious in their commitment to achieve peace. We have an interest in peace at this particular time because the wind currently blowing across the globe is suitable for us, just as it is in line with the strategy of the new world order. This wind does not totally suit them because the new world order has a new strategy. This change is useful to us, but this does not mean that the new world order will leave Israel alone and drowning in the sea. No, it will not leave Israel; instead it will demand that Israel be logical and reasonable. Therefore, at this particular time we are trying to benefit from this wind to resolve these issues.

So, I feel that we have acquainted ourselves with their views on all the issues, including security, military security, civilian security, water, energy, environment, land, borders, and withdrawal. We have heard much, but we are still exchanging views, and we have not reached the point of taking a decisive measure. People are waiting for a decisive measure. The time is not yet right for a decisive measure.

Therefore, I believe that the process is not stalled at all. On the contrary, it is dynamic, and I also feel that the sponsor [not further identified] is continuing its pressure and is promising to support this process. This is evident in these measures and this extremely great effort, which are needed to prepare for the bilateral or multilateral talks. They are great efforts, and there are very large numbers of officials conducting strenuous studies. The question is not one of hitting the other side with a bullet and scoring victory. It is not like this.

Jordan, Israel Reportedly Agree on Dam Project

JN0205160292 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 30 Apr 92 pp 1, 18

[Excerpt] Al-Bayan and news agencies—[passage omitted] AL-BAYAN has learned that the Jordanian and Israeli delegations to the Washington peace talks have reached an agreement in principle to go ahead with plans to build al-Wahdah Dam, the designs of which were funded by the Jordanian Government in cooperation with Syria. Work on the project came to a halt because of Israeli threats.

Sources at the Jordanian Foreign Ministry told an AL-BAYAN correspondent that the ministry has received a cable from the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks reporting that Israel has expressed willingness to agree to the building of this dam, within the context of peace plans between the Arab states and Israel and the water distribution strategy.

The sources added that the issue will be discussed in details in today's session of talks in order to reach a draft agreement and then present it to the governments of Jordan, Syria, and Israel for final approval.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Parliamentary Union Holds Emergency Meeting

Syrian Envoys Stress Support For Libya

JN0305064492 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Tripoli—'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, Syrian People's Assembly speaker and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union Council, yesterday chaired the council's extraordinary session. The session convened in Tripoli to express support for the Libyan Arab people.

The session, which is an extension of the council's previous session, held in Tripoli in January, is being attended by speakers and representatives of 15 Arab parliaments.

At the beginning of the session, Qaddurah urged Arab parliaments to shoulder their responsibilities under these circumstances and do everything necessary to protect and defend the Arab homeland.

He also said the Arab position must be based on a full awareness of the circumstances facing the Arab nation and on Arab solidarity. He called for pooling resources to confront the challenges facing the Arab nation.

Qaddurah praised Libya's balanced stand and proposals that call for resolving the crisis with the West through peaceful means in accordance with the international law. Qaddurah reviewed the activity of the Arab Parliamentary Union since the previous session and stressed that the Arab parliamentary delegations have shown the world that Arab parliamentarians are united over the situation facing Libya.

Earlier, Qaddurah met with 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, and 'Abd-al-Karim al-Ju'aydali, head of the Kuwaiti parliamentary delegation, to discuss the session's agenda.

Shakir Is'ayyid, head of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee and head of the Syrian delegation, delivered a speech on behalf of the Syrian Arab parliamentary branch. He said: Syria has supported the resolutions reached at the Arab League Council meeting, and has since then reaffirmed its position. This position supports Libya in word and deed and calls for using the principles of the United Nations and the Arab League to resolve conflicts through peaceful means.

Is'ayyid talked about the use of double standards in implementing UN Security Council resolutions and wondered about the fate of hundreds of UN Security Council resolutions which denounce and condemn Israel's occupation of, and practices in the occupied territories. He said the double standards in dealing with the UN resolutions have become very obvious.

He called for achieving Arab solidarity to face the challenges. Is'ayyid said: We live in a world in which there is no international democracy. Democracy is defined by President Hafiz al-Asad as meaning equality among states, dealing with each other freely on equal footing, and nonintervention in the internal affairs, sovereignty, and independence of others.

He added: Syria has always supported a just peace based on UN resolutions pertaining to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including Resolutions 242 and 338 which guarantee Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Is'ayyid stressed that Syria will not abandon a grain of the occupied national soil. He pointed out that Israel seeks to obstruct the peace process and stability with its settlement policies.

Concluding his speech, he underlined Syria's solidarity with, and support for the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Iraqi Official Addresses Meeting

JN0305151692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1254 GMT 3 May 92

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 3 May (INA)—[Iraqi] National Assembly Deputy Speaker Ghanim 'Aziz has stressed that international legitimacy and similar nomenclature are used only to cover practices meant to shake Arab action and obstruct the unity of the Arab nation.

He was speaking at the emergency session of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU], which opened last night to demonstrate solidarity with Libya as it confronts the unjust embargo imposed by the United States, Britain, and France. He said the international legitimacy claimed by America and its allies is a scheme to impose hegemony on the world and flagrantly interfere in the domestic affairs of small nations. The scheme also aims at striking and paralyzing Arab will, he said.

He pointed out that the United States, Britain, and France are controlling the international organization to facilitate their designs of dominating the resources of the Arab homeland.

Mr. Ghanim 'Aziz called on the Arab nation to take a serious position transcending all factors of weakness and fragmentation, and to unify its ranks to confront challenges. He stressed the need for supporting Libya and rejecting NATO's unjust resolution against that country. He said the resolution will not fulfill its objectives if the Arabs agree on rejecting it. [passage omitted]

Parliamentary Union Ends Emergency Session

LD0305192792 Tripoli JANA in English 1630 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Tripoli, al-Maa [May] 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Arab parliamentarians declared their firm and total support for the Libyan Arab people and

backing for the steps taken by the Jamahiriyah to safeguard her sovereign independence and territorial integrity and respect for her people's political and social orientations .

In a final communique at the end of the 22d emergency session of the Council of the Arab parliaments this morning in Tripoli, Arab parliamentarians expressed their high appreciation for the civilized manner in which the Jamahiriyah dealt with the crisis and her response to the requirements of Resolution 731 .

They reasserted their support for Libyan constructive moves aimed at settling the issue so as to find the truth without prejudice to the freedom and sovereignty of the Libyan Arab people. They censored the Western countries which rejected these constructive moves. Following is the full text of the communique:

The Arab parliamentarians are fully aware of the significant importance of the moment in which their second meeting was held as the Libyan Arab territory was subjected to a ferocious onslaught led by the imperialist Western countries as an extension of the plot against the Arab world in a bid to control it and get one country after the other. They are aware of the Western onslaught and its implications including an imminent danger threatening the entity of the Arab nation and its survival and destiny, distortion of its past, hijacking its future and control over its resources and means. They are aware of the depth of national responsibility which they bear for being the embodiment of the Arab nation's will and expression of the Arab people's conscience in censoring the American threats against the sisterly Libyan Jamahiriyah. Also, the Arab parliamentarians are fully aware that the best solution to meet these challenges and resist them and that preventing them lies in the realisation of Arab unity providing the Arab nation with the capability to protect its survival, sovereignty, territorial integrity and interests in a world seeking to set up major blocs and through unity the Arab nation may restore its glory and ability to meet the challenges and building up its own power.

Accordingly, the Arab parliamentarians urge call upon the Arab monarches, emirs and heads of state to convene an emergency Arab summit to deal with the circumstances in which the Arab nation is going through, restore the unity of Arab body and lay down firm foundations for common Arab action to meet the challenges with a united Arab stance.

The Arab parliamentarians reaffirm their firm and total support for the Arab Libyan people and backing for all the steps taken by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to safeguard its independence, territorial integrity, security and respect for its people's political and social orientations.

The Arab parliamentarians laud the civilized manner in which the Jamahiriyah dealt with the crisis. This manner which expresses Jamahiriyah's response to the requirements of the Security Council Resolution 731. They reassert their support for the constructive Libyan Arab moves to settle the problem and aimed at finding the truth without prejudice to the freedom and sovereignty of the Libyan Arab people. They condemn the Western countries' stance rejecting these constructive moves.

The Arab parliamentarians reassert that the adoption of Resolution 748 under chapter seven of the U.N Charter was illegal and lacking to any international legality for the issue did not amount to a threat to international peace and security. Accordingly, they urge the Arab governments to reconsider their implementation of the resolution.

The Arab parliamentarians asserted that the coercive measures imposed on the Jamahiriyah contains a threat to the Great Jamahiriyah, its territorial integrity, security, stability and constitutes a threat to the national security and integrity of the Arab nation and countries. They called for the need to adhere to the charter of the League of Arab states and its provisions, the implementation of the Arab Mutual Defence Pact and the power of the Arab economic unity.

The Arab parliamentarians declared their adherence to the resolutions of the Council of the League of Arab States in its emergency session on the threats against the Libyan Arab people especially Resolution 5156 on 5/12/91, Resolution 5158 on 16/1/92, and its Resolution on 22/3/92. They urge the Arab countries to implement these resolutions.

Also the Arab parliamentarians called upon the Arab countries to implement the resolutions of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers held in Tunis on 4/1/92 and the resolutions of the Arab economy ministers during the meeting of the Council of Arab Economic Unity in its 54th session on 6/1/92 which stated the following:

Stressing the support for the Great Jamahiriyah in countering the coercive measures, supporting it morally and materially, taking the necessary measures in countering the measures resulting from any new economic or trade sanctions or naval or air ban. Safeguarding the movement of national and foreign goods between the Great Jamahiriyah and Arab countries.

In this respect, the Arab parliamentarians [words indistinct] exerted by the League of Arab states towards finding a peaceful solution fo the crisis. They salute the Arab League's seventh committee and urge the countries of the committee to take the necessary measures to enhance its work and accomplish its objectives in defence of the [word indistinct], its sovereignty and survival.

They salute the Arab ministerial councils and their decisions refusing the measures of economic boycott. They reassert their rejection of the threat of use of force and embargo policy in the settlement of international disputes. They declare their adherence to the U.N

Charter provisions and dialogue as a civlized means for the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with Article 36 Paragraph 3.

They urged the Arab people's organisations to work for the implementation of the tangible decision they took in solidarity with the Libyan Arab people.

The Arab Parliamentary Union recalled, in its communique, Clause 10 in the decision taken by the 22nd extraordinary session calling for an immediate meeting by Arab parliaments if the Jamahiriyah was subjected to aggression or embargo so as to take the appropriate stance required by the united Arab destiny in countering the aggression at people's and governmental level .

The Council of Arab Parliamentary Union urged the Security Council to implement the United Nations and the Security Council resolutions on the Arab and Zionist conflict, the Palestinian issue and Holy Jerusalem in a manner which may safeguard the withdrawal from all Arab occupied territories in Palestine, the Golan and South Lebanon and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people and not to use double standards so as to affirm the credibility of international legality.

The council decided to entrust the presidency of the union and the general secretariat with the following:

1. To follow up the implementation of its decisions taken at its extraordinary session during their first and second meetings at the level of regional parliaments in the Arab world.

2. To intensify contacts with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, African Parliamentary Union and all regional parliamentary organisations to clarify the civilised stance of the Jamahiriyah towards finding a peaceful and fair solution in accordance with the U.N Charter and international law and to assert the support of the Arab parliaments with the Libyan Arab people in its rejection of embargo and its consideration of it as an act of aggression against it and a violation of the U.N Charter and the universal declaration of human rights.

3. To set up an Arab parliamentary committee for follow up headed by the president of the union with the task of following up the developments of the issue and taking practical measures required by those developments .

4. To convey the final communique and the decisions contained therein to the secretary general of the League of Arab States, the secretary general of the U.N, international and regional parliamentary organisations and to all non-governmental Arab organisations.

GCC Suggests 'Freeze' on Damascus Declaration

NC0205173392 Cairo MISR AL-FATAH in Arabic 27 Apr 92 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states have refused to respond to the Egyptian and Syrian Governments' request to speed up implementation of the Damascus Declaration signed in April last year.

According to information, the Gulf states which Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa recently visited expressed the wish to freeze the security section of the declaration for the time being until the GCC states develop a final formula for security among themselves.

Sources have noted that the Egyptian foreign minister was officially notified during his recent Gulf states tour that these states agreed among themselves on a new security formula which is a purely internal GCC matter and does not concern Egypt or Syria. Musa also was told that Egypt and Syria have no right to object to that formula, otherwise they would be rejecting a security principle approved by the GCC states, who are solely entitled to develop this formula.

Moreover, strong differences emerged during the Egyptian minister's tour over interpretation of the Damascus Declaration and Iran's role in it. Musa maintained that Iran's involvement in any security or economic arrangements must be made independently from the declaration, which according to him should be exclusive to the eight signatories in its preliminary stages and then be extended to other Arab countries who may later wish to join it; and Iran is not an Arab state.

Reacting to the Egyptian minister's demands, the GCC states noted that the freeze on the security aspect of the declaration is prompted by the fact that the Gulf states have decided to conclude security agreements with Iran, Egypt, and Syria and that these agreements will be handled independently from other security agreements, as the case was with those agreements signed with the United States, Britain, and France.

Egyptian sources have claimed that these new proposals mean the final collapse of the Damascus Declaration and that this prompted the Egyptian foreign minister to harshly criticize the Gulf states' attitude.

Syria's al-Shar' Comments on Libya, Peace Talks

NC3004185892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1341 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Cairo, 30 Apr (MENA)—Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al- Shar' left Cairo this afternoon, ending a visit of several days to Egypt during which he participated in the meetings of the Arab League Council's 97th session and was received by President Husni Mubarak.

In a departure statement, he said positive results were reached during the meetings on the Libyan issue. He said: We released a statement in which we expressed our deep concern over the issuance of the Security Council resolution and the imposition of sanctions against Libya. Security Council Resolution 748 was issued after the Arab League Council passed several resolutions asserting support for Libya and help in resolving this crisis peacefully in accordance with the rules of international law. He added that this crisis has created a kind of impasse in the Arab world because the Arab resolutions were issued before the Security Council's resolutions.

He said the Arab countries are committed to the Arab League and Security Council resolutions because the Arab countries are members of the United Nations. He noted that this commitment led to the emergence of disparity among the resolutions, which must be dealt with, and created an Arab and international crisis.

He said: As Arabs, we are obliged at the pan-Arab level to stand by Libya, especially since it submitted specific proposals which the Arab foreign ministers agreed upon unanimously and regarded as fulfilling Security Council Resolution 731 and providing a suitable, peaceful solution to this crisis.

He added that Libya's proposals provided for handing over the two suspects to a neutral country to be agreed on for a fair trial.

He continued: I believe that if the aim is to try the two Libyan defendants and achieve justice, then the Libyan proposal meets this goal. But if the aim is something else, such as punishing the Libyan people, then as Arab countries we cannot accept this aim.

He said: During the Arab League Council meeting, we emphasized that, under Article 50 of the UN Charter, the Arab countries may ask the Security Council to exempt them from adhering to the provisions of Security Council Resolution 748 for reasons concerning pan-Arab obligations among the Arab countries.

Commenting on the Middle East peace talks, al-Shar' said that the Israeli side "wants negotiations about negotiations" and does not seek results from these talks. Evidence of this, he added, is that they set a few days for saying that the negotiations are going on without giving enough time to hold deep and substantial talks to reach positive, tangible results.

He noted that the Israelis' continued disregard of the substance of the peace process and rejection of implementing Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 prove that they are not only intransigent, but also are not serious in reaching positive results, which the entire world awaits.

As regards the next meeting of the Damascus Declaration countries' foreign ministers, he said this meeting must achieve tangible results to practically implement this declaration's principles and provisions.

He suggested that implementation of the Damascus Declaration be discussed by experts and specialists in the eight countries before the foreign ministers meet in Doha on (?2) May. He said: We expect the experts and specialists to reach a suitable formula for implementing the Damascus Declaration to be discussed by the eight foreign ministers in their next meeting so that they may endorse this formula.

The Syrian foreign minister affirmed that Egypt and Syria have followed with great concern the implementation of this declaration.

Palestinian Affairs

Spokeswoman 'Ashrawi Assesses Peace Talks Progress

Israel 'Deliberately' Prevents Gains

JN0205202392 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] The Palestinian delegation to the peace talks returned to Amman from Washington this evening. Palestinian spokeswoman Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi said the fifth round of talks with Israel was extremely difficult and the Israeli side was deliberately preventing any progress.

[Begin 'Ashrawi recording] The last round was actually an extremely difficult round. The Palestinian side came fully prepared to present serious workable proposals capable of achieving concrete results. The Israelis came with the deliberate intent of preventing any progress, of preventing dealing with serious and central issues, and they actually came to posture before the media on the one hand and to extend their elections campaign to the U.S. on the other.

We absolutely refuse to have the peace process being made subject to Israeli domestic concerns or part of their electioneering propaganda. We feel that it is unforgivable that they have wasted their time, our time, that they have not, that they have failed to engage, failed to respond to all the proposals and positions we gave in a serious manner and that they insisted on keeping this a very truncated session—a four-day session—and we feel that it was absolutely a waste of time. They should have actually dealt with our proposals positively and seriously. [end recording]

Scores Israeli 'Propaganda' Campaign

JN0205201392 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli talks, has said that the Arab parties consider Rome a suitable venue for resuming talks.

In a statement to our reporter upon the Palestinian delegation's return from Washington this evening, 'Ashrawi said that the Arab parties will hold a coordination meeting here in Amman before the start of the sixth round of negotiations.

[Begin recording] ['Ashrawi] We tried our best to make it a round of real negotiations for a change. It was clear to us, however, that the Israeli side came to this round not to negotiate but to launch a propaganda campaign in the United States to serve Israeli election aims. The Israeli side endeavored to prevent any progress, to hold our demands in contempt, to avoid any positive stands, and to shorten this round as much as possible by avoiding the possibility of achieving any progress on substantive issues.

[Unidentified reporter] But sources in the U.S. State Department today described the Palestinian-Jordanian talks with the Israeli delegation as positive and as having achieved progress. What is your comment on this?

['Ashrawi] Based on what we have discussed with the U.S. side, they expressed much appreciation over the Palestinian stand. I do not know what they told the Jordanian delegation, but they told us that the papers and plans we presented deal with the crux of the matter. However, we were also able to prove to them that Israel did not deal with issues seriously or respond to them. Therefore, I think that they also have domestic political demands. As far as the Palestinian stand was concerned, they insisted that the stand was positive. As for Israel's response, however, nothing at all happened that could be termed progress.

[Reporter] Do you expect that the next round will be held in Rome after what happened during this most recent Washington round?

['Ashrawi] In fact, the Arab side, including all the participating parties, agreed that Rome is a suitable venue for the bilateral talks. In principle there is an agreement on Rome. A quadrilateral Arab meeting will be held in Jordan by the four participating Arab states at which time a unanimous decision will be arrived at concerning a date for the next round. [end recording]

PLO Says 'Some Progress' Made in Peace Talks

NC0205205392 Paris AFP in English 1932 GMT 2 May 92

[Excerpt] Tunis, May 2 (AFP)—The PLO on Saturday said some progress was achieved at last week's Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington, echoing similar remarks made by Israeli negotiators and United States officials.

Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's decision-making Executive Committee, also accused Israel of being "opposed to any progress" in the U.S. and Russian sponsored Middle East peace process.

He told AFP that the Palestinian delegation was planning to request that the sixth session of Arab-Israeli peace talks to be held in Rome take place after Israel's June legislative elections.

"We cannot allow the talks to be a card in the hands of (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Mr. Shamir," he said.

'Abd-Rabbuh added that the team was also examining with the United States the possibility of a role for diaspora Palestinians and residents of East Jerusalem in the five steering commissions of regional multilateral discussions. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Addresses Palestinians on Labor Day

LD0105225992 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 1 May 92

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, identified by his nom de guerre Abu-'Ammar, on 1 May on the occasion of Labor Day; place not given—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Lord, decide thou between us and our people in truth, for thou art the best to decide. [Koranic verse]

Brothers, beloved ones, sons of the Palestinian working class in the occupied homeland and the diaspora, you are the arms who carried the torch of our heroic people's struggle and who cleaved their way through the rock and defeated the conspiracy to starve and humiliate our people, the men who roamed all four corners of the globe in defense of the land, the cause, and a decent living. How many times did they predict that our people would melt away in their exile in the region and the world, after they uprooted them from their land and dispersed them, and after they besieged and persecuted them, even concerning the livelihood of their children? They imposed on them one siege after another in the belief that they can make our people and masses kneel. They are trying this in vain because your jihad, determination, and resolve have foiled all their schemes and calculations. Yes, they have foiled all their schemes and calculations.

Our people share your celebrations of 1 May, Labor Day, determined to pursue their militant march through their revolution and their intifadah until they attain their inalienable national rights. One generation after the other rushes toward the dawn of freedom and national independence which will inevitably be realized.

In the name of our Palestinian people, on behalf of my brothers the members of the PLO Executive Committee, and on my own behalf I convey to you the sincerest militant sentiments and the warmest brotherly greetings wherever you are at the head of your militant posts in the occupied homeland and in the diaspora. Yes, wherever you are at the head of your militant positions in the occupied homeland and the diaspora.

Brothers and sisters, we live in a world which is undergoing rapid changes and in the tumultuous waves of which political patterns and molds and great powers have disappeared. New states are being established. In spite of this, our region remains the focus of attention and the center of events for all the world powers. We must struggle, make efforts, and work so that this new world order will not be established at our expense and that of our future generations, and at the expense of the interests of our nation and that of our national and pan-Arab security.

Our Palestinian people's cause in terms of their occupied land and their usurped rights constitutes the major challenge that the people face concerning their right to express themselves, to express their national and pan-Arab self within a political formula, not to mention their right to self-determination.

Our people, who have been struggling since the beginning of this century to realize their identity and their national rights, are determined to impose their cause and their rights, regardless of the magnitude of the conspiracies and the forces of evil and aggression against them. With our faith, we will make the new dawn; with our determination, we will confront all the conspiracies; and with our sacrifices, we will make our way to free and proud Palestine.

O comrades of the path and the march: You, as well as your people in the occupied homeland, are facing the fiercest Zionist-Israeli onslaught, which is targeting our land and sanctities. Through your struggle and steadfastness, you are confronting the policy of repression and killing being practiced by the Israeli occupation forces and the Israeli settlers. You are also being exposed to the severest economic blockade, which reaches the point of starvation in Gaza, economic crisis in the West Bank, and the financial, political, media, and material blockade against our people pushing them to the brink of despair.

But, but, but O brothers and beloved ones, despite the wounds, the killing, and the blockade, our people are continuing their sacrifice and jihad and their blessed intifadah, which you are protecting with your arms and souls. You are also building our institutions, our institutions of national authority for our independent state. Yes, you are building our institutions, our institutions of national authority for our independent state.

In light of the failure of this impudent conspiracy in the face of your heroic steadfastness inside and outside the homeland, our struggling, mujahid masses are continuing their blessed intifadah and their struggle more vigorously, stronger, and more determined to confront the Zionist occupiers and their allies, who are persistently launching conspiracies and campaigns against our national unity. We have to adhere even more to our people's goals, rights, and gains, as well as to our cause. We have to foil these conspiracies, and we have to strengthen our national unity to crush the conspiracies of the forces of tyranny, aggression, and occupation. We will without a doubt help our messengers and those who believe in this world's life and on the day when the witnesses will stand forth. [Koranic verse]

Our established democracy and our institutions, the edifice of which we have built throughout a march of bitter struggle and strengthened with the blood of our martyrs, provide an appropriate climate and fit our people's peculiarity and the historic phase through which we are passing. Yes, they provide an appropriate climate and fit our people's peculiarity and the historic phase through which we are passing. They constitute the shield that protects our national unity and revolutionary march.

Workers, sons of Palestine, the only contradiction is with the Zionist enemy, who occupies our land, desecrates our sacred places, and violates our people's rights. Jihad for the sake of land, sacred places, and rights is the true jihad to liberate the land and protect and liberate the sacred places. Today we face an enemy of settlers, supported with equipment, funds, weapons, and people—who are called immigrants but are in fact people displaced by force—from all over the world, to uproot our people from their land and destroy their life, heritage, civilization, and sacred places. However, our people, whose deep roots in this sacred land go back for thousands of years, will not yield and will not rest unless they achieve their national inalienable rights and establish their free, glorious, and independent state, with holy Jerusalem as its capital, with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

Our steadfast, struggling workers, despite the savageness of the conspiracy, the difficult regional and international conditions, and the Zionist enemy's arrogance, crimes, and intransigence, since the Madrid conference for Middle East peace our people have been fighting a new battle—yes, a new battle, the dimensions of which we understand—armed with faith and hard resolve, and armed with resolutions from their legislative and executive institutions. At the same time, they continued the struggle and persistent work to alleviate our people's suffering, stop the Zionist settlement expansion on their land, and attain their national inalienable rights, the foremost of which are the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state, the capital of which is holy Jerusalem, the first qiblah and the third holy shrine, the place from which the Prophet Muhammad ascended to heaven and the cradle of Jesus Christ.

Thanks to our sincere jihad and national cohesion and unity we managed to make the entire world hear our voice. We managed to place our people's rights at the top of the international agendas. Most of the effective powers with influence over international politics have reached the conviction that these rights must be met as a precondition to the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Do you understand this, brothers? Yes, a conviction that these rights must be acknowledged as a precondition to the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The just and lasting peace means the Palestinian peace, the Palestinian peace, the Palestinian peace that affirms our people's inalienable rights.

We are going along with this process despite its difficulties and the difficult Arab and national circumstances, armed with our deep conviction, sincere struggle, firm unity, and the fairness of our people's rights, which have been affirmed by the resolutions of international and Arab legitimacy and protected by our people's struggle,

their ability to stand fast and struggle under the harshest circumstances and challenges, and (affirmed) by this firm and sober basis.

My brothers and beloved, your negotiating delegation is carrying out its duty fully and effectively. We are proud of it, its brilliant performance, and the commitment and discipline throughout all the stages of the talks. Our people remain committed to its orientation, with the support of our brothers and the honorable in the world, in order to establish a just peace based on justice. Do you understand? To establish what, brothers? To establish peace, to establish a peace that is based on justice. The Zionist crimes, arrogance, and intransigence will only increase our persistence, our firmness, and our conviction in our inalienable national rights.

On this basis we charge the two patrons of the peace conference and the countries under the aegis of which the multinational talks are being held with the responsibility of exercising every kind of pressure on Israel in order to force it to abide by international legitimacy, resolutions, and will. There should not be two criteria for that legitimacy. Yes, there should not be two criteria for international legitimacy, but one criterion to confront Israeli [word indistinct] and its aggression, its occupation, and its persistent violation of international resolutions, including the seizure of lands, the building of settlements, the transgression against that which is held sacred by Christians and Muslims, and the violation of the Fourth Geneva Accord and international conventions and norms.

My brothers and beloved, on this occasion we affirm to you our principled stand. We affirm our principled stand which is committed to all just causes in the world, to the importance of cooperation and coordination with all free men and the honorable in the world, to effective solidarity with all workers in the world, particularly in the Third World countries—in Africa, Asia, and Latin America—so that we are able to establish a world in which sentiments of fraternity, amity, and solidarity prevail, and not contention, exploitation, tension, and wars. A world which strives to live in calm, peace, and stability under a just order in which states participate in building civilization, progress, and prosperity, and not for a new order which enslaves peoples and plunders their resources. Let everyone be aware that our people, our free men and revolutionaries, and the free men of our Arab nation will form an invincible barrier to confront challenges and conspiracies which aim at [word indistinct] our Arab nation, harm it, or tamper with the future of its future generations.

Brothers, sisters, my beloved, O you struggling workers, you who are steadfast in your places, in the factories, plants, and farms; in the universities, colleges, and schools; in the hospitals and clinics; in the offices, shops, and institutions; in the occupied homeland and the diaspora. O my beloved and comrades of the road, give generously and increase your steadfastness which is inspired by our national unity, by our people's uprising, and by our blessed people's uprising, in order to develop our institutions, consecrate our democracy, and together build our independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital on the land of Palestine, the place from which Prophet Muhammad, prayers and peace be upon him, ascended to heaven, and the birthplace of Christ, peace be upon him. Dawn is coming. Dawn is coming. Dawn is coming. Victory is coming, victory is coming, victory is coming.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. If ye prayed for victory and judgment, now hath the judgment come to you; and we wished to be gracious to those who were being depressed in the land, to make them leaders and make them heirs, to establish a firm place for them in the land. [Koranic verses]. God told the truth, and it is a revolution until victory, until victory, until victory. Your brother, Abu 'Ammar.

PLO Policy Not To Interfere in Israeli Election

LD0105200592 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member brother Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] made the following statement: Recently there have been many statements by numerous press circles attempting to distort the PLO policy toward the Israeli elections, whether to the right or the left.

The PLO's policy on this question is precisely not to interfere, for this is a domestic matter which will be decided by the electorate itself. We are negotiating with an Israeli government—a government that will be formed after the elections if it is still committed to the negotiation process in accordance with the bases of the call which was decided by the sponsor states and which is based on solving the conflict and establishing a lasting and comprehensive peace in accordance with the UNSC [Security Council] Resolutions 242 and 338.

This is our stand. We do not accept any responsibility for any statements attributed to us in any context other than this.

PPSF Official Scores Syrian, Iranian Actions

JN0305091792 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 3 May (INA)—A Palestinian official has accused the Syrian and Iranian intelligence services of planning the recent dissension inside the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF].

Abu-Hazim [not further identified], member of the PPSF Central Committee, has said that teams from the Syrian security and intelligence services, Iranian agents, and a PPSF rebel group stormed a meeting attended by scores of PPSF members in Damascus and occupied the hall, arrested the conferees and confiscated the PPSF offices.

Abu-Hazim told AL-JUMHURIYAH that the dissension was an illegitimate step because it is not based on PPSF bylaws or resolutions by its central command.

He emphasized that the Palestinian masses do not support the dissidents and said that statements were issued inside the occupied territories and in the Arab states condemning this move.

Algeria

Boudiaf Urges Opposition To Join Patriotic Rally

LD0205135292 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1130 GMT 2 May 92

[xcerpts] Public administration, its role and its future have been debated since this morning at the Bouzareah Higher National College of Administration and Management. Study groups are being organized there under the aegis of the head of government. Of course, experts and senior executives are taking part in the gathering. This morning during the opening of the proceedings, Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf was also present and made an important speech. A report immediately with Ammar Toualbi:

[Toualbi] [passage omitted] In an opening speech Mr. Boudiaf congratulated honest, competent, and patriotic officers, of which there are many in the administration. He added that certain practices like corruption, nepotism, and the misuse of personal contacts, and bureaucracy within the administration must be dealt with. Mr. Boudiaf suggested that the government apparatus be reorganized by an independent and competent commission. We need, he said, modern, efficient, neutral, and professional administration.

Another thing: The administration is also called upon by the High Council of State chairman to join the patriotic rally. On that subject, he said, and this is very important, that he wished to welcome to the rally those who did not agree with the Higher Council's approach in order to get the country out of the crisis. So, an opening up of the political spectrum to the political opposition but not, he added, to the elements which brought the country to the point where it is now.

We any time now expect a speech by head of government, Mr. Ghozali. We will give more extensive coverage of Mr. Boudiaf and Mr. Ghozali's speeches in our upcoming news bulletins.

Interior Ministry Reiterates State of Emergency

LD0205203292 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 May 92

[Statement issued by the Interior Ministry on 2 May—read by announcer]

[Text] Algeria today enters a collective march to restore the standing of the state and its gains, and to uphold civil peace and safeguard the security of individuals and property.

For a while now the situation has been characterized by a relaxation which is gradually becoming clear. As such, the citizens no longer fear the coming of Friday, family outings have become possible, normal activity has been restored on the streets, and it is no longer a field for marches and processions which used to obstruct the citizens. Public services have returned to serving the citizen. Municipalities are no longer instruments serving the interests of any specific party—a matter which gave concern to some circles.

The time used to be chosen by the adventurers and the planners of disturbances and those who repeated their offenses, thus breaking the law [words indistinct due to break in transmission] and rumors which had been circulating for some days to obstruct the public authorities—rumors that had been followed up by the security organs and denounced by the citizens. These adventurers will be confronted by a firm public authority and by the citizens, who are convinced that social stability and peace are two fundamental things.

The citizens understand that the great measures which are presently being implemented by the public authorities are not aimed at anything other than restoring security, ensuring the security of individuals and property, and strengthening the stability of the country. All are convinced that restoring the authority of the state is an issue which concerns everyone who wants good for this country. They are many.

The Interior Ministry considers it necessary to continue these measures with confidence and without fear. The public authorities renew their resolve to confront all attempts which seek to undermine public security from whatever source with all the firmness of the law.

The Interior Ministry reminds all that the state of emergency which has been in effect since 9 February continues, and that any congregation, mass gathering, or public demonstration remains illegal throughout the homeland with the exception of gatherings which have been legally approved.

Prosecution Seeks Death Sentences in Guemar Attack

LD0205004592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] The military court in Ouargla this morning finished hearing the testimony of the accused and witnesses in the Guemar events case [fundamentalist attack on Guemar border post]. At the end of today's session the presiding judge announced that the prosecution, the civil side, and the defense will begin their submissions on Saturday. The charges made against the 52 accused, who have appeared before the court, concern harming state security, conspiracy, theft of weapons and ammunition, and harboring criminals.

Sources close to the prosecution said that in its its submission the prosecution will propose a number of death sentences. It was learned from the same sources that cases similar to the Guemar case were being investigated by the military courts in Ouargla and Oran. There are many inmates in the military prisons of the two provinces who belong to other branches of the armed Islamic movement in Djelfa and Sidi Bel Abbes Provinces and who were preparing to attack barracks in order to obtain weapons.

Observers on the spot believe that the trial of the accused in the Guemar case has exposed the connection between Islamic activities, contraband, and smuggling.

Police Officer Killed by 'Armed Group'

LD0305125592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Once more an assassination has been recorded today in the capital.

An armed group this morning assassinated a police officer in Belcourt District. The officer was fired on when he was about to leave his home and head for work. The armed men stole his car and escaped.

Consultative Council Refuses To Work in Assembly

LD0305224692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Quoting sources close to members of the National Consultative Council recently appointed by Mohamed Boudiaf, EL-MASSA reports that members of the National Consultative Council have refused to work at the headquarters of the National People's Assembly so that it is not construed that they are members who have been appointed to replace elected deputies.

The Council members have emphasized that their task is confined to assisting the Higher State Council with any counsel required of them.

Egypt

Russian Vice President Rutskoy Begins Visit

Rutskoy, Sidqi to Discuss Peace Talks

NC0105201392 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1904 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 1 May (MENA)—Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi has affirmed that the Arab-Israeli bilateral talks will be a major topic of the talks that Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy will hold during his current visit to Egypt. Sidqi said in statements he made today after Rutskoy's arrival at Cairo airport that the two superpowers' continued patient sponsoring of the peace talks and the interest that they have shown will help achieve some progress in these talks, especially because the results so far remain limited at the bilateral and multilateral levels.

He pointed out that a new round of these talks is expected to be held soon in Rome. He expressed the hope that this round will realize greater hopes for establishing and entrenching peace in the Middle East.

Sidqi emphasized the role of the Russian Federation in these talks. He said that Russia by all standards is considered a major power. It has taken over the position held by the former Soviet Union in all fields, especially in the United Nations and other major international organizations.

At the start of his statement Dr. Sidqi welcomed the Russian vice president. He said that this is the first visit of its kind at this high a level since the developments in the former Soviet Union at the end of last year.

He expressed the hope that this visit will be the first of other extensive visits between the two countries. He pointed out that Egypt is following with great interest all the events in Russia and the other former republics, those both inside and outside the CIS.

Dr. Sidqi stated that talks during the Russian vice president's visit will deal with the post-Soviet Union situation both internally and internationally. He pointed out that Egypt is following the events in the Russian Federation as a precursor for developments in the rest of the republics which were created from the former Soviet Union.

The prime minister noted that Egypt is hoping to establish good relations with the Russian Federation in all fields, especially along two major axes. The first deals with economic and trade relations and the second with educational and teaching relations, because there are many Egyptian scholarship students studying in Russia and the other republics.

He pointed out that many economic and trade delegations have recently visited Russia and the rest of the republics following the recent developments. In a few days a new delegation will again visit these republics and will concentrate on the cultural and educational aspects. Dr. Sidqi concluded his statements by expressing the hope that Vice President Rutskoy's visit to Egypt will be an opportunity to bolster the historical bilateral relations between the two countries in all fields.

For his part, Rutskoy emphasized the need to work at continuing the excellent relations between the two countries in all fields. He called for opening the door to constantly developing these relations, especially in the economic and industrial fields. He pointed out that the accompanying delegation includes a number of Russian businessmen who wish to bolster these relations.

He affirmed that Russia, being the heir of the Soviet Union's position in all fields, seeks to develop relations with Egypt and to administer a political dialogue to discuss all economic issues. Therefore, the economic aspect will gain prominence in the subjects proposed for discussion during this visit to Egypt. The visit will deal with developing bilateral relations in the various fields in view of the new events in the Russian Republic.

Mubarak Receives Rutskoy 2 May

NC0205084592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0810 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 2 May (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received Russian Vice President Aleksandr

Rutskoy at the 'Abidin Palace this morning. Dr. 'Adil 'Izz, minister of state for scientific research and chairman of the escort delegation accompanying the Russian guest, also attended the meeting.

Following the meeting, which lasted over an hour, the Russian vice president said that he discussed with President Mubarak several important issues, particularly bilateral ties. He noted a similarity of views on these issues.

On Egyptian-Russian cooperation in the sphere of modern technology, Rutskoy stated that his country is thinking of signing an agreement on this issue. He noted that his views and those of President Mubarak were identical in this regard.

Noting that next year will mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and the former USSR, the Russian vice president announced that the main outlines of cooperation between Egypt and Russia will be drawn up this year. He said that he is confident of achieving good results in this connection in the near future.

Commenting on the Middle East peace process, Rutskoy said that he found that President Mubarak has a strong wish for a peaceful settlement in the region. He explained that Russia's position is very close to Egypt's in supporting the continuation and encouragement of the peace process.

On Egyptian-Russian ties, Rutskoy said: We must look forward to the future.

He noted that he discussed all relevant issues with President Mubarak, whom he described as a prominent politician.

Sidqi Receives Rutskoy 3 May

NC0305143492 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi today received Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy in his office.

The two officials reviewed the range of economic, scientific, and technological cooperation and current international issues, primarily the Middle East situation and the need to bolster the peace process in order to achieve a just and lasting peace in the region.

The meeting was attended by the ministers of foreign affairs, cabinet affairs, industry, economy, international cooperation, and scientific research.

Dr. Sidqi hosted a luncheon today for the Russian vice president and his accompanying delegation.

Rutskoy Departs 3 May

NC0305175992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1720 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 3 May (MENA)—Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy and his delegation left Cairo this evening after a three-day visit to Egypt, during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak.

Rutskoy held talks with Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi on the Middle East peace process and Russia's role as one of the peace conference cosponsors. Their talks also dealt with bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them in the economic, trade, cultural, and scientific fields.

Rutskoy was seen off at the airport by Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning.

Diplomatic Ties With Afghanistan To Resume

NC0105174192 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Cairo, 1 May (MENA)—The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt has decided to resume diplomatic relations with Afghanistan at the ambassadorial level. This statement was made by the official Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Libya

Justice Minister Comments on Lockerbie Case

NC0105165592 Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic 22 Apr 92 p 9

[Text] In an exclusive interview with AKHIR SA'AH, Ibrahim Muhammad Bakkar, Libyan justice and interior secretary [title as published], has affirmed that Libya is more interested than any other country in finding out the truth of the Lockerbie case, because its reputation and position have been damaged as a result of this mean and inhuman accusation leveled against it.

He said: Libya's position is characterized by flexibility and rationalism in line with the advice of its Arab brothers, particularly Egypt. As a member of the international organization, Libya resorts to law and rational and calm dialogue. Libya considers this a legal issue despite attempts to politicize it.

The Libyan interior secretary said: We are ready to make every effort, to consider all possible solutions, and to pursue all measures to reveal the truth and the actual perpetrators to the world.

At the beginning of the interview Bakkar said: The airliner issue is preoccupying public opinion now, particularly in Egypt. We know that our brothers in Egypt are sharing the problem with us, even though in reality it is a trumped-up issue designed to undermine the regime and silence any voice calling for unity or nationalism. But God is stronger than anyone. Our determination and will are strong, especially because all our Arab brothers, on all levels, have expressed support for the Jamahiriyah in its just position, which is characterized by wisdom, flexibility, and logic.

He said: We know that the incident was an ugly, inhuman crime. It warrants everyone finding the truth

and the perpetrators, because there were innocent victims involved. Those behind it must be punished. But the way that this issue has been exploited shows that it was used as a pretext to settle old, accumulated scores with Libya.

The Libyan justice secretary said: I think that you have followed up what we have done in forming a high-level investigative committee and in calling on all the parties concerned to send investigators.

We have gone even further by asking the Arab League to choose an uninvolved, neutral country to ensure the seriousness, fairness, and honesty of the investigation and to find the truth. But this was also rejected. We then went to the International Court of Justice and made two basic requests. The main request was to specify under which laws the dispute between the countries concerned should be examined. The United States says that it is the party concerned because the aircraft and most of the victims were Americans. Britain also thinks that it is the party concerned because the incident took place over its territory. Libya maintained that it is the party concerned according to its national law issued in 1953. It is known that this law was issued during the royalist regime when all the advisers were British.

Bakkar said: All these states want an international judicial body to determine under which laws the case should be considered. This was accepted by the International Court, which has not yet ruled on it. This is the first request. The second was for the court to prevent any measures against Libya which would result in irreparable damage in the future. This was a precautionary measure which was addressed to Britain and the United States before the issuance of the UN Security Council resolution. The International Court stated in its reasoning that it is not qualified to suspend the resolution. We did not ask for the suspension of the Security Council resolution; we asked the United States and Britain to make the decision. We are awaiting the International Court's ruling regarding the concerned party. We have already announced that we will abide by the court's decision. It should be noted that Libya has resorted to the International Court of Justice more times than any other state in the world. We have resorted to it five times before on various issues, particularly the border dispute between Libya and Tunisia, Malta, and Chad. We always have accepted the court's judgment. So, this is not the first time that we have resorted to the court. We always abide by its rulings whether or not they are in our favor.

The Libyan interior and justice secretary said: I assure you that the issue is not that of the airliner. It is an issue involving the settlement of accounts with Libya. It is an attempt to divide the Arab world and dominate its resources. Nevertheless, as members of this international organization, and on the advice of our Arab brothers, particularly Egypt, to resort to law and reason and rational dialogue, we continue to pursue this policy. We still consider it a legal matter despite the attempts to politicize it. We are more concerned and more serious than anyone about revealing the truth and the perpetrators. This is because the Jamahiriyah's reputation and position in the world have been damaged as a result of such mean and inhuman accusations against it. We are making every effort, are ready for all solutions, and are ready to pursue all measures to reveal the truth and the true perpetrators to the world. We all know, and the West knows, that it is not Libya.

No direct or indirect charge had been made against Libya since 1988. But all of a sudden, for political reasons, and to create a new world order, as they claim, Libya has been accused in this case. We reaffirm everything that we have said before if there is a world which still wishes to find the truth, uncover the perpetrators, and offer compensation to the families of the innocent victims who lost those dearest to them.

JANA Cites Reports on Lockerbie Investigation

'No Unaccompanied Baggage' Transferred

LD0105174992 Tripoli JANA in English 1643 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] London al-Ma'[May] 1 JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The British cable network 'Sky News' has said that a report prepared by the American intelligence service, the FBI, shows that an unaccompanied bag was in fact not transferred from a Maltese airlines flight to the American Pan Am flight 103 in Frankfurt airport as claimed by the American authorities.

Sky News reported that officials of Germany's police and intelligence services along with their counterparts in the United States held a joint meeting in 1989 in Frankfurt after which they published a report which confirmed that pertinent piece of luggage may have been transferred aboard the Pan Am airline in Frankfurt from an airline not necessarily coming from Malta.

The report went on to feature a spokesman on behalf of Maltese airlines who said that all their records at Malta's airport confirm that no unaccompanied luggage was in the cargo hold of the Air Malta flight 180 which was headed for Frankfurt.

U.S. Allegations 'Come to Nothing'

LD0105165292 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Rome al-Ma' [May] 30 [date as received] JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY—A program broadcast by the Italian cable television station, Channel Two on Tuesday on the Pan Am airline incident said that it has been proven that the piece of hand luggage which the Americans claim that Libyans planted on the plane after it was transported from Malta because no trace of this suitcase was found in the cargo hold of the Malta Airlines flight which was destined for Frankfurt on the 21st of al-Kanun [December], 1988. [sentenced as received]

The Italian cable station also featured details of these new discoveries which prove that no luggage of such a description was aboard the plane, something which was also proved by the American inteligence bureau, the FBI. The program went on to say that with this new evidence, American allegations against the Libyans come to nothing.

In commenting on these new developments, JANA's local affairs editor said "we are surprised that, after this new evidence has come to light, Libya is not being distanced from blame for the Pan Am airline incident. Instead, the United States remains, as put forward [passage indistinct] is determined to implicate Libya in this incident because they are justifying their stance on the saying that "a leopard never changes its' spots".

Editor Denies Tripoli Called For Bush Resignation

LD0205193992 Tripoli JANA in English 1823 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Tripoli, al-Ma' [May] 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The ASSOCIATED PRESS yesterday transmitted a report monitoring reactions to the news of the American blacks' uprising and the way the Great Jamahiriyah dealt with the events.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS said 'Libya said that President Bush should resign. The Libyan radio and television dedicated more than half their news bulletins to what they described the blacks' uprising in Los Angeles. A commentator on Libyan radio announced 'this shows the tyranny of the American regime...and points to racial discrimination in the USA...and attacks on blacks...and to the weakness of George Bush who is not fit to be a president.' end of quote by the ASSOCIATED PRESS.

JANA's editor for international affairs commented on this report refuting the allegations it contained.

The editor said 'Firstly: It is not true that the Libyan radio and television dedicated more than half of news bulletin on the coverage of the blacks' uprising. In fact, the event was dealt with as merely a news item in a way not different to that of other news agencies. Furthermore, our material and pictures came from the American news agencies and television networks as a result of the important events which REUTERS described as 'events which brought into the surface a racial conflict which was boiling in the depth of the American people'. These events, therefore, imposed their precedence over other events in terms of coverage upon all world news media including television, radio and newspapers. Perhaps these events occupied less space on the Libyan radio and television news bulletin than that allocated to them by the American television CNN.

Secondly: The claim by the ASSOCIATED PRESS that Libya said that 'President Bush should resign because he was unfit to be the president of the USA' is slanderous claim and the ASSOCIATED PRESS cannot attribute it to Libya in as much as it cannot quote the Libyans as saying such a thing for the Libyans do not need anyone to explain what they wanted to say because the are used to call things by their real name so that such things may not be open to distortion or interpretation. Even, that the ASSOCIATED PRESS attributed to Libya was in a fact said by the American national Jesse Jackson, who was seeking to be a candidate for the American presidential elections in 1984 which brought George Bush as a vice president and before he became president, and, then, quoted by well known international media .

The editor concluded his commentary by saying 'The subject of the resignation or dismissal of President Bush is a matter, firstly, which concerns him alone and an issue which can be decided only by the American people in whose internal affairs we refuse to intervene. Then, why did the ASSOCIATED PRESS resort to this distortion? [no closing quotation mark as received]

Editor on U.S. Naming Libya Terrorist State

LD0205205192 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Quoting the U.S. State Department, Voice of America reported that the number of terrorist incidents had risen to 557 during last year as a result of the Gulf war. The State Department had added that Libya, Iran, Iraq, Cuba and North Korea were among the countries which were supporting terrorist organizations.

Commenting on this, the JANA international affairs editor asked: Did not America say that terrorism had ended after the U.S. raid on Libya in April 1986?

Reaction to Police Trial, Los Angeles Unrest

JANA Editor on 'Uprising'

LD0105234592 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Tripoli, 1 May (JANA)—The JANA political editor commented on the outbreak of the blacks' uprising in America. He said:

American justice in the dock:

This is a more befitting caption for the events of the last 48 hours, which shook the city of Los Angeles in the United States, or rather which shook all of America.

The spark that ignited the fire in the city of Los Angeles and which gave vent to the anxiety and tension dormant under the glossy propagandist aspects of the society of the elite and of U.S. capitalism is the spark that stripped naked the credibility of American justice. American justice is overridden by the spirit of racism, as shown when it acquitted without any charge four white police officers of the charge of a brutal physical attack on a black American citizen. The crime was recorded by an amateur cameramen who observed and video recorded the incident, which was shown by international television networks at the time.

The black citizen felt, in front of the harsh racist court, insulted and humiliated and that his rights, despite his U.S. citizenship, were not included in the dictionary of the lucky ones—the white Americans. Consequently, he lost his confidence in the future and what it holds for him under the shadow of a law that does not guarantee the rights of those who do not have white skin.

How can this be possible in a state which has no scales of justice and where human rights are not upheld, especially a state that raises the slogan of defending human rights in the world? What credibility can one expect from justice that has been rejected by the people, and what sort of justice—which gives itself the aspect of honesty—is this that says it is an example that others must follow while it denies this justice to others?

These questions are no longer questions asked only by Americans. They are also questions asked by small nations of the world which have been considered enemies by America in the name of the law and human rights.

The paradox here is that at a time when U.S. citizens are rising against the racial terrorism behind which U.S. law hides, the U.S. Administration itself issues its annual list containing whatever states it wishes to add to the column of "supporters of terrorism."

U.S. Judiciary Accused of Racism

LD0305001892 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 2 May 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] We greet you and present a commentary from the Voice of the Greater Arab Homeland:

Before billions of human beings whose consciences were shaken by the acquittal of four white U.S. police officers of a savage criminal assault, by kicking and striking with a truncheon a black U.S. citizen who had not committed a crime, U.S. justice stands naked even of a fig leaf, after it has been exposed as a judiciary that lacks not only the simplest bases of integrity, justice, or morality, but also as a judiciary that is up to its neck in racism.

The crime of a savage physical assault against that black U.S. citizen was not possible to hide or cover up. It is a crime which is documented on a video recording that was not seen only by millions of Americans but also by billions of human beings across the whole world.

If the U.S. judiciary is dealing in an unbelievable way, without integrity or justice, with a crime that was documented on a video recording seen by billions of human beings, what then would be the fate of hundreds of crimes not documented in this way which were committed by Americans against U.S. citizens who are black or from other colored races? Indeed, this is not the first incident which has exposed the true face of the U.S. judiciary, which is surrounded by many faults, doubts, and a lack of justice and morality. How many U.S. citizens have been sentenced to death and then years later it is revealed that they were innocent of the charges of which they were convicted? How many U.S. citizens have spent long years in the darkness of prisons, and after the loss of years of their lives it became obvious that they were not the ones who had committed the crime?

The Los Angeles incident of acquitting four white U.S. police officers who savagely assaulted a black U.S. citizen by kicking and striking him with truncheons was the most provocative to the feelings of millions inside and outside America, and the most obvious testimony to the U.S. judiciary's lack of the smallest amount of credibility or morality. Where would it get credibility, morality, integrity, and justice?

This is the judiciary that was established two centuries ago in the turmoil of the horrifying massacres organized by the U.S. Army against the red Indians, the original inhabitants of America, and at a time when a prize would have been awarded to every white U.S. citizen who could produce the scalp of a red Indian. This was under the auspices of the U.S. judiciary, the members of which were exposed by the recent Los Angeles incident as not being different in any way from members of the Ku Klux Klan organization.

In reality, this horrible incident, which shook the consciences of millions inside and outside America and which led to the uprising and revolution of the blacks in Los Angeles and other U.S. towns, not only exposes the nature of the U.S. judiciary but also completely exposes the nature of U.S. society, which is based on the oppression of blacks and colored people, exploitation, injustice, and the absence of justice and human rights. Over 20 million Americans are living below the line of abject poverty, more than tens of millions of Americans are homeless and living on the sidewalks which are their homes, and further tens of millions are pulverized by unemployment.

After all this, one wonders whether the U.S. Administration—the annual register of which lists whichever country it chooses in the column of those that encourage terrorism—would continue to preach to other countries on human rights, justice, and other similar empty sermons. Let them first ask themselves about the state of human rights in America.

After today, no one will believe their sermons, which basically exist to pull the wool over people's eyes in order to hide the atrocities that are taking place in America, at the forefront of which is a racist judiciary that lacks the least amount of morality or credibility.

Morocco

Iraq's 'Aziz Arrives With Saddam Message

LD0305211692 Rabat RTM Television Network in Arabic 2030 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz arrived in Rabat this evening with a message from President Saddam Husayn to His Majesty King Hassan II.

The Iraqi official was welcomed on his arrival at Rabat-Sale' Airport by Mr. Abdellatif Filali, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation; Mr. Fadil 'Abd-al-Ghafur al-Shahir [name as heard], Iraqi ambassador to Morocco; and a number of other figures.

Sudan

Ethiopian Role in Pochala 'Liberation' Denied

EA0405081692 Omdurman National Unity Radio in English 1500 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and prime minister, has said that the liberation of Pochala town was effected inside the Sudanese territory. He said in a statement to SUNA that the force which liberated Pochala was 100-percent Sudanese and that no Ethiopian forces had participated with it in the operation for the liberation of the town from the Ethiopian side facing the town of Pochala.

Commenting on the news broadcast by the British radio quoting Dr. Hasan al-Turabi as speaking of the possibility of the Sudanese forces being launched from the Ethiopian territory, he said that Dr. al-Turabi has no official status to make the statement expressive of a Sudanese Government view. He said Dr. al-Turabi is not a military official and does not possess accurate information about the armed forces' movement, adding that the British broadcast might have misinterpreted Dr. al-Turabi's statement.

Gen. al-Bashir said in his statement to SUNA that some hostile information circles always tried to sabotage our relations with the neighboring countries and in particular want to disturb the tranquil relations with Ethiopia and Kenya so that the [rebel] government [as heard] could catch an opportunity to realize its targets.

512 Rebels Killed in Attack on Opposition Base

EA0205001892 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] The biggest rebel camp in the (Morlek) area in Bahr al-Ghazal [western Sudan] has been destroyed by the People's Defense Forces. The rebels lost 512 killed along with large quantities of arms, ammunition, and equipment. A group of rebels has been captured.

Lieutenant Colonel al-Junayd Hasan al-Ahmad, commander of the al-Diyati Dabha forces which carried out the operation, said that the rebellion [word indistinct] the operation in the battle to block a train heading for Wau at (Mabior) Station. Mujahidin clashed with the rebels in the decisive battle in [place-name indistinct]. Their scattered remnants were routed.

Lt. Col. al-Junayd praised the cohesion of the tribes and their effective participation in the operations.

Government Recognizes New Afghan Ruling Council

EA0105141892 Khartoum SUNA in English 1649 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Khartoum, 30th April (SUNA)—The Foreign Ministry has issued a statement declaring Sudan's recognition of the Afghan mojahedin [council] headed by Prof Sebghatollah Mojaddedi. The Sudan has declared its recognition in compliance with its foreign policy principles of respecting the nation's right in self-determination and choosing of their ruling systems.

Senior State Officials Sworn In

JN0305142092 Baghdad INA in English 1335 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, May 3, INA—A number of senior officials today took the constitutional oath before President Saddam Husayn on the assumption of their new posts.

General Husayn Kamil Hasan took the constitutional oath as advisor to the president, Mr. Tariq al-Turkmashi as governor of Central Bank of Iraq, Mr. Suhayl Muhammad Salih as mayor of Baghdad, General 'Amir Muhammad Rashid as director of the Military Industrialization body.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi head of the Presidency Office.

Mayor of Dhi Qar Tahir Jalil Habbushi, Mayor of Ninaw'a General 'Abd-al-Jawad Dhannun and Mayor of Maysan General Kamil Sakit 'Aziz took today also the legal oath before President Saddam Husayn on the assumption of their new posts.

Present at the ceremony were Mr. Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi head of the Presidency Office and Mr. Watban Ibrahim al-Hasan minister of interior.

Iranian Delay in Prisoner Release Criticized

JN0305174492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 3 May (INA)—The Iranian regime has once again begun to delay the handing over of Iraqi POW's, violating, thereby, the agreement which was reached with representatives of the Tehran regime in Geneva last month.

INA has learned that the Tehran government informed the International Committee of the Red Cross that it has decided to postpone the handing over of the first batch of Iraqi POW's, which was scheduled to take place today, until further notice. No reason for the postponement was given.

It has been learned that this is the third time the Tehran regime has broken its promise to release Iraqi POW's held in Iran, thereby breaching Islamic law and international agreements.

Baghdad Recognizes 'New Authority' in Afghanistan

JN0405142592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 4 May (INA)—Iraq today announced its recognition of the new authority that assumed power in Afghanistan.

This came in a statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Iraq. The following is the text of the statement:

In view of the long-standing historical relations between Iraq and Afghanistan; in line with Iraq's firm solidarity with the Muslim Afghan people and their nationalist forces, which are struggling against foreign intervention; in order to strengthen the historical bonds between the two Muslim countries; and out of Iraq's full respect for the desire and free options of peoples and states, the Government of the Republic of Iraq announces its recognition of the new authority that assumed power in Afghanistan.

Iraq hopes that peace and stability will prevail in this friendly country as soon as possible and that national unity will be entrenched so that all efforts of the Afghan people can aid the rebuilding of the country. Iraq expresses its readiness to continue and promote cooperation with Afghanistan to serve the interests of the two Muslim peoples of the two countries.

Regime Said To Buy Arms From Ex-Soviet States

NC0105152092 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1318 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] In the wake of the overwhelming defeats inflicted on the 'Aflaqite remnants by the popular uprising groups in the marshlands in the past [word indistinct], tyrant Saddam's regime (?concluded) secret deals to purchase advanced weapons from some of the republics which recently gained independence from the former Soviet Union. This was disclosed recently by the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq's information center. The center said that sources close to the pariah regime revealed these deals. The sources added that some of these weapons will be introduced this month and will be at the 'Aflaqite regime's disposal.

On another level, fearing our tribes in the south and in the marshlands, the criminal 3d Corps Commander al-Rawi recently forced a number of tribal shaykhs and heads to meet with him. He admitted at this meeting that the 'Aflaqite forces are constantly subjected to frequent strikes by the opposition groups. He added that the opening of a front against the Army has not been observed except in the marshlands.

Military Industrialization Head's Message to Saddam

JN3004121192 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Apr 92

["Text" of cable of congratulations from Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil Hasan, supervisor of the Military Industrialization Organization, to President Saddam Husayn on his birthday; date and place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And say: Work righteousness: Soon will God observe your work, and his apostle, and the believers. [Koranic verse]

To the builder of our glory and leader of our march, struggling President Saddam Husayn, may God protect him: The forces of evil and aggression have failed to extinguish the light of rightfulness or to suppress the torch of victory in Iraq's Saddam Husayn, the victorious leader and the solid mountain of pride. Nor have they succeeded in blocking the march of giving, construction, and development. Immortal Iraq will remain noble, lofty, and generous, and its great people will continue to yearn for pride, might, and faith.

Your Excellency, the knight of the nation, your struggler sons at the Military Industrialization Organization are adding glorious and outstanding chapters to their bright record, which is full of achievements and heroic acts. They are challenging, with their unlimited energies, all forces of evil, treachery, and aggression; and they are inspired, in their epic of jihad, by all values of faith, patience, and heroism. In these immortal days culminating in your auspicious birthday, these sons are pleased to offer, with all eagerness and pride, one of their new achievements as a modest gift to Your Excellency as a contribution to our people's celebrations of this dear occasion. This gift is the Iraqi tractor, th al-Nida', which was completely manufactured, for the first time in the country, by Iraqi hands and in a record time of no more than two months.

My victorious leader, in order to activate agriculture and boost the components of food security, which takes a great deal of your attention, the Military Industrialization Organization has since the first days of the sinful aggression made persistent efforts to break the unjust blockade by concentrating on agriculture and securing its main requirements, the foremost of which was the building of the tractor. Our industrial teams were instructed to begin the immediate local manufacture of all parts of the tractor, which we used to import in the past. The men rushed to work; they went all out, with upright heads, to create, through their sacrifice, a wonderful, heroic epic depicting the most amazing images of cohesion and teamwork within the Military Industrialization Organization. Their efforts succeeded, and their endeavor was blessed by the production of the zero batch [al-wajbah al-sifriyah] of the al-Nida' tractor as a symbol of challenge to and steadfastness against the hateful colonialist onslaught. The production coincided with our people's celebrations of your glorious birthday.

Sir, mujahid leader, the wheel of life will move in its natural direction, and the salient meanings of the Mother of Battles will be entrenched. The wonders and heroic actions of your sons at the Military Industrialization Organization throughout the march of giving and construction will continue to echo over the years. Great Iraq will remain brave, proud, and impregnable to enemies. Your noble people will remain ready to hold your high-flying banner, the banner of God is Great. May God grant you might and long life and keep you as a source of pride and strength for Iraq and the glorious Arab nation. May the occasion return with our Iraqi people experiencing further achievements and successes under your leadership.

[Signed] Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil Hasan, supervisor of the Military Industrialization Organization

Regime Forces Shell Peshmerga Headquarters

NC3004180592 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Today at 0900 the dictator's forces for two hours shelled with artillery the peshmerga headquarters in the village of Sayyid Husayn, in the Kifri region. The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan's (Garnian) Battalion responded to this attack with its artillery.

Shell Nojol Area

NC0205171892 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1705 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] The dictatorial regime's artillery continues to shell liberated areas in Kurdistan.

At 2100 on 30 April the regime's heavy artillery shelled the Nojol area for 30 minutes. At 1000 yesterday the regime's artillery shelled the same area for two hours.

Minister on Young Writers, Portraits of Saddam

JN0105144992 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 25 Apr 92 p 3

[Third part of interview with Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi by acting Chief Editor 'Abbas al-Janabi and 'Abd-al-'Slim al-Banna'; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [BABIL] Local papers devote quite a limited amount of space to literary work by young people in an erratic and rather random fashion which lacks a definite pattern. Reporters in charge of the cultural pages and young writers seem to have an uncomfortable relationship. Do you think that you could sort out this issue in your capacity as minister?

[Hammadi] It is possible. Given the shortage of newsprint, we have been forced to cut back on the number of pages we can publish. Let's be clear about one thing, though. How would you define youth literature? Should we go ahead and publish whatever is produced by a young person due to the mere fact of that person's age? That would be a bizarre form of tyranny. [passage omitted]

[BABIL] Most of the unemployed young writers have been put to work at newspapers and magazines and cultural establishments. There is a notable lack of consistency both in regard to office hours and pay, which is meager at best. These young writers are eager to do something to express their gratitude, but they have yet to be afforded an opportunity to do so. What are your thoughts on this situation?

[Hammadi] No, that is not true; it is the logic of the weak. What the ministry has done seems to have gone unnoticed. On a certain occasion I happened to inquire about two or three writers. I was moved to tears when I learned that one of them was hawking tea. I was also told that another writer was selling his books to make a living and a third was sick and working as a cab driver. I asked the Writers Union to draw up a list of all the writers in Iraq providing details on their health, pension pay, and general condition. I asked about those who were having a difficult time earning a living and about those who had a job but were underpaid. I also asked about those who were unemployed. I am not supposed to find work for able-bodied youths who must fend for themselves, and yet even this category of young writers was included in these lists, which we studied for over four months.

As for the first category of writers, the ones who were in dire straits, they have been honored by his excellency the leader president. Regarding the pensioners, we have looked into their status and whether or not they are able to work. We are not a charity or social welfare society. We are a ministry of culture and information. If a given writer is having a hard time making a living, we try to alleviate his plight so that he can be productive. Writers who can work but are experiencing difficulties are assigned to the ministry. A pensioner with a 240-dinar salary, for example, will be given a job at the ministry. He will not be required to report to work on a daily basis. If he is assigned specific duties and 150 dinars per month, he will not be required to report to work every day. Then there is the category of writers whose pay has been doubled. These include writers who may earn as much as 650 dinars a month, which is higher than the salary of an under secretary.

We have not taken on all young people, for if we had done so the number would have topped 10,000. We have taken on those who contributed through their poetry to al-Qadisiyah and the Mother of Battles. We asked about their contribution to the Mother of Battles and al-Qadisiyah. We are not about to be generous to anyone with a bad record, no matter who that person might be.

We got in touch with writers who distinguished themselves and informed them that they would, for example, be appointed editors or proofreaders at AL-JUMHURIYAH working for such and such a salary. It is not fair to pay high salaries and bonuses to erratic and moody writers. That is corruption. If writers are to be renumerated by the editor in chief, they must produce quality work. [passage omitted]

[Passage omitted] [BABIL] From time to time the ministry appoints people who, due to certain factors, contribute to shaking writers' self-confidence and the relationship between writers and cultural institutions, in addition to creating problems that do not serve anybody. What do you think about this?

[Hammadi] That is a false, tendentious accusation. Even if reference is being made to a particular person, well that, person misbehaved and was expelled in 1987-88. We are now in 1992. Those people would not approve of anybody now, even if you ask them to elect someone at the ministry to facilitate the affairs of the forum. So how do you expect that person to be able to facilitate things? I am required by the Presidency of the Republic to facilitate the forum's affairs, in accordance with the law. Am I to resolve their problems by myself, or should there be someone at the ministry whom I can depend on in matters that concern them, provided that this person is honest, understands them, knows how to deal with them, and keeps me informed of what happens? In addition, I always meet with the administrative body and invite them over individually and collectively so that I can understand how things are going. I am familiar with how things are going, and I can deal with them. Their problems are simple, but they are endless because they are personal. One of them, for example, wants AL-JUMHURIYAH to publish his poems the very same day he gives them to the newspaper. No newspaper in the world operates that way. They also want a special place for the forum to meet at specific hours, and that place should have a bar, and there should be no restrictions.

[BABIL] What happened to the embezzlement that occurred at the National House for Distribution and Information?

[Hammadi] The case was referred to the courts.

[BABIL] What happened to the competitions to erect a monument in Baghdad? As far as we know, it took the Murals Committee more than three months to move to the Saddam Center. This means that the current committee has so far not done its duty. In addition, many designs presented by artists in previous competitions were ignored and not implemented.

[Hammadi] Yes, because they were not good. We formed the Murals Committee after we noticed that many official and unofficial sides and parties were setting up murals for the leader president. Of course, we cannot prevent whoever loves the leader president from hanging a picture of him in front of their house. However, we interfere when we find that the picture is inappropriate. It is true that the person might have drawn the picture himself or had another paint the picture for him, but it is still inappropriate. In addition, many pictures, especially in some alleyways, were defaced in the aftermath of the chapter of treachery and treason. We formed the committee which in turn made an inventory of all pictures, noting any and all defects. We preferred the committee be kept centralized so as to keep it from making any interpretations. The committee specified a number of pictures that should be changed or fixed, especially because many of them were affected by adverse weather conditions.

I have met with the artists, who number around 70, and told them: We do not want only a painting of the leader president but a painting with a topic concerning industry, agriculture, reconstruction, battles, anything. I

also told them that we do not prefer oil paintings because we want paintings to be displayed indoors and do not prefer to expose the paintings to the sun or rain. As for paintings that will be displayed on roads or in public squares, they should be ceramic, mosaics, or sculptured in profile, because they will remain exposed to the elements for a long time. Of course, when we are discussing a subject in which we have objective production, this requires study. Also, the painting should be beautiful and the features true to life. For these reasons, the committee was formed under my supervision. Some good paintings were selected, others were rejected, and the committee made remarks to other artists about certain defects in their drawings. [passage omitted]

Hammadi on Censorship, War Damage

JN0105062492 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic
26 Apr 92 p 3

[Fourth and "last" part of interview with Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi by acting Chief Editor 'Abbas al-Janabi and 'Abd-al-'Alim al-Banna'; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [BABIL] Have there been complaints from writers whose books have been referred to certain experts or reviewers who have piles of work, thus causing their books to be delayed for more than a year?

[Hammadi] No, that is not true. The problem is that there are a great number of books and the majority are literature. Some of the best names have been chosen. Books are sent to us to either be printed in our print shops, which play a support role, or to be printed in the private sector, and that is a different story. These books go through censorship to ensure that they are intellectually and morally sound. Apart from that, we do nothing. If a book is intellectually and morally sound but its technical level is not high enough to be published under the name of the Ministry of Culture and Information, we approve it, but it has to be printed privately. Is there anything wrong with this? It is possible that some books are late, but I am not certain.

[BABIL] There are some names that should not be presented for censorship in the first place. That is to say there are big names that have reached a certain level, for example 'Ali al-Wardi [not further identified]. If the ministry wants to print his book, then it has the right to interfere. But he wants to print his book abroad, so why should he get the approval of the Ministry of Culture and Information when he, 'Ali al-Wardi, is well known? Are there any instructions to the publication censors to pay attention to certain names and give them priority?

[Hammadi] This exists. Even the censors are sometimes embarrassed, but the administrative aspect of his job dictates that he should read the book. [passage omitted]

[BABIL] Thank you very much for your patience on our questions, despite the fact that they are frank. We wish you success and we thank you on behalf of Mr. 'Udayy Saddam Husayn for these frank answers. One last question: Have you written a musical about the battle, and what do you read in BABIL?

[Hammadi] I have tried to do something in that direction. In BABIL, I read the editorial, the last page, and the citizens' complaints. I sometimes read the culture page. I repeat that I particularly read the editorial and the citizens' complaints, which I believe reflect the pulse of the ordinary citizen in the street, regardless of whether they are right or not. They give me the material for the television program "Hello" which I personally supervise.

[BABIL] Which BABIL writers does Hamid Yusuf Hammadi likes most?

[Hammadi] Certainly you prefer certain writers over others. But, if I mention some names, others may be angry with me.

[BABIL] How extensively were the cultural and media institutions and installations damaged in the great historic Mother of Battles, and how far did you go in the campaign to rebuild them?

[Hammadi] 1. The radio and television broadcasting stations and the radio and television broadcasting and production studios, as well as the cultural buildings, were to bombed and damaged during the U.S.-Atlantic-Zionist hostile aggression and in the second chapter of the aggression, the chapter of treason and treachery. The damage was as follows:
A. Nineteen television broadcasting stations were damaged in Baghdad, al-Basrah, al-Muthanna, Ninaw'a, Dhi Qar, al-Anbar, al-Ta'mim, and Maysan Governorates.
B. Thirteen radio broadcasting stations were damaged in Baghdad, al-Sulaymaniyah, al-Anbar, Dhi War, Diyal'a, and Salah-al-Din Governorates.
C. Radio and television broadcasting and production studios in Baghdad, Ninaw'a, and al-Basrah were damaged.
D. The Palace of Conferences was damaged. The Iraqi Museum and some of the historic buildings were also damaged.
E. In the chapter of treason and treachery, the radio and television broadcasting stations which were spared hostile bombings were damaged and looted, especially in al-Basrah, Maysan, Babil, Dhi Qar, al-Sulaymaniyah, and al-Ta'mim Governorates. The museums in al-Basrah, Karkuk, Dhi Qar, Maysan, al-Kufah, Dahuk, Irbil, and al-Sulaymaniyah were also looted, damaged, and set ablaze. Furthermore, large number of manuscripts and antiques were stolen from archaeological sites by agents and the troops of aggression, particularly in al-Nasiriyah Governorate.

2. The ministry has implemented urgent and short- and medium-term plans to ensure that the country is covered once again by radio and television transmissions and to rebuild the damaged stations. Great results have been achieved. So far, the following has been achieved:

A. Twenty-seven radio and television broadcasting stations were rebuilt and put into service. Additionally, the broadcasting and production studios in Baghdad were rebuilt and renovated.
B. Renovation work in all museums in the governorates has been completed. Work continues on other projects, and significant progress has been made.
C. Significant progress has been achieved by the Iraqi staff in rebuilding and maintaining the radio and television transmitters and the electrical and electronic systems. Work of this nature in the past was limited to foreign experts.

[BABIL] Thank you.

Information Minister on Support for Kurdish Culture

JN3004191792 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi has said: Literature has a significant message to deliver, a message that is both national and humanitarian. There is no poetry and prose which does not carry a message or reflect a position. Even the poet who sings the praise of a tree or a waterfall is in fact taking a position.

In a speech delivered today at the Kurdish poetry festival at the al-Ribat Hall and organized by the Culture and Information Ministry's Kurdish Culture and Publishing House, Hammadi said: The eternal pieces of literatures are those that advocate the causes of their peoples and nations, as well as the causes of humanity.

He added: For Kurdish literature to play its role in the building of human civilization, it must advocate the causes of its people and nation. Otherwise it will be nothing more than words by which an individual cannot live.

The minister emphasized that leader President Saddam Husayn's constant assertions and consistent position underlining the need for advancing Kurdish culture and art and for supporting creative Kurds is not a new course but rather a strategic theory in culture and the arts.

He said: Championing the worries and causes of the Iraqi Kurdish individual is our concern and is part of our great worries at this point, during which our greatest concern—namely national unity and the struggle against colonialism, which seeks to infringe upon this unity—acquires an added significance.

He added: Conceding national unity and serving colonialism is a source of great shame which the imperialist quarters want to impose on the Kurdish people's history and struggle.

He stressed that throughout their history and struggle the Kurds have never been a tool in the hands of colonialism but rather were at the forefront of the struggle against British, Zionist, and U.S. colonialism.

Concluding his speech, Hamid Yusuf Hammadi said that his ministry is prepared to give provide facilities and extend all efforts during these circumstances to make Kurdish culture assume the status that it deserves.

Culture Minister, 'Udayy Meet Chief Editors

JN0105123692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0826 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Baghdad, 1 May (INA)—Hamid Yusuf Hammadi, culture and information minister, and 'Udayy Saddam Husayn, president of the Iraqi Journalists Union, have met with the chief editors of Iraqi papers and magazines. They discussed ways to raise the level of the journalistic profession and to improve journalists' living conditions.

At the beginning of the meeting the president of the Journalists Union welcomed the minister, affirming that the Journalists Union and the ministry are two faces of the same coin with the joint aim of serving the leader and the homeland, calling for them to work in harmony, and stating that if they separate they will be different coins, in the unnatural way that the Americans wanted them to be to realize their evil intentions.

The minister noted that the journalistic family welcomes the election of 'Udayy Saddam Husayn as the doyen of journalists because his traits and characteristics will not only raise the level of the journalistic profession but will also provide momentum to the march of the media and the press under President Saddam Husayn.

RCC Member Attends War College Graduation

JN3004172692 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] The war college at the al-Bakr Higher Studies University today celebrated the graduation of the War College's ninth class—the class of jihad and construction—on the occasion of leader President Saddam Husayn's birthday.

The celebration, which was attended by the fighter Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and defense minister, started with a recitation of the al-Fatihah [opening chapter of the Koran] for the souls of the most glorious, the martyrs of great Saddam's al-Qadisiyah and the Mother of Battles.

Fighter Staff Lieutenant General Yunus Muhammad al-Zarab, president of the al-Bakr Higher Studies University, delivered a speech congratulating the graduates of this high-level educational edifice, which provides our armed forces during this critical phase—the phase of construction and jihad—with qualified personnel to help build the structure of the armed forces, in the achievements of which throughout history in the land of Iraq we take pride.

Staff Gen. 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, RCC member and defense minister, then handed out certificates and awards to the graduates.

Staff Gen. 'Ali Hasan al-Majid was given a souvenir from the staff of the War College. He said that he greatly appreciates the role played by the college to provide our Army with military scientists to serve great Iraq under the banner of the symbol and leader, President Saddam Husayn.

Two Bridges on Highway to Jordan Inaugurated

JN3004185192 Baghdad INA in English 1700 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Baghdad, Apr. 30, INA—Two bridges on the express way linking Iraq with Jordan were inaugurated today in the province of al-Ramadi, east of Baghdad. The two bridges were severely damaged during the U.S.-led thirty states aggression on Iraq.

Minister of Housing and Reconstruction Mahmud Dhiyab said in a speech on the occasion that reconstruction of the two bridges took 140 days and that major parts of the 508 meter long each bridge sustained complete destruction in addition to damaging several supporting pillars during four air raids by enemy planes.

Al-Dawrah Thermal Power Station Inaugurated

JN2904190692 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Apr 92

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of leader President Saddam Husayn, the Industry and Minerals Ministry today inaugurated the al-Dawrah thermal station, which has an estimated production capacity of 740 megawatts. Deputizing for leader President Saddam Husayn at the opening of the station was Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, Revolution Command Council member and prime minister. [passage omitted]

It is noteworthy that the al-Dawrah thermal station was destroyed and rebuilt during the Iranian aggression. It was destroyed once again by the imperialist-Atlantic alliance forces.

The ceremony was attended by a number of ministers, ministry under secretaries, accredited Arab and foreign ambassadors in Baghdad, and correspondents of international and Arab newspapers and news agencies.

Oil Minister Returns From Vienna Meetings

JN3004114692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Apr (INA)—Oil Minister Usamah 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hiti has returned to Baghdad after participating in the meetings of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, and the Independent Petroleum Exporting Countries held in Vienna on 23 April.

The minister also participated in the seventh ministerial meeting of the OPEC Monitoring Committee held in Vienna on 24 April.

Al-Asad Scored for Opening 'Direct' Israeli Talks

JN2904202192 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Apr 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On the evening of 21 April 1992 Yitzhaq Shamir made a statement to the Zionist enemy radio in which he said: Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip are Israeli territories and will remain under Israeli control. Those who are negotiating with us are perfectly aware of that. We will never give them back. What is dangerous in that [word indistinct]. Had Shamir reiterated, as usual, [words indistinct] the Zionist enemy's refusal to withdraw from any Arab territory occupied by the Zionists, that would have appeared natural, normal, and familiar. But when he stated that those negotiating with [words indistinct] know that fact, this is the question. With customary Zionist shrewdness, Shamir, however, wanted to make us miss the real culprit. It is neither reasonable nor logical for him to say that all those who went to Madrid and then to Washington knew the Zionist stand. Somebody has involved others deliberately, attentively, and premeditatedly. The question is: Who opened the gate of direct negotiations with the Zionist entity?

Let us refresh our memory a little, and will find that it is Hafiz al-Asad. He approved the initiative of the killer of the Arab nation's children, criminal George Bush, in May 1991. Hafiz al-Asad dragged Palestine to the Zionist-U.S. slaughterhouse and relinquished international legitimacy when he forgot all previous Arab resolutions and called for a UN-sponsored international conference. Hafiz al-Asad also stated before the Madrid conference that he was going there without even a promise from criminal George Bush to put pressure on the Zionist entity to make it withdraw from the Golan Heights.

Therefore, what is going on in Washington is preplanned and has known results. What will happen in Rome next is preplanned and has known results. The end will not be in either of the two capitals, however. Where then? After the sixth round in Rome there will be rounds in Damascus, Tel Aviv, and Cairo. Is not this the Zionist will? What next? Will the Golan be returned? Will the West Bank and Gaza be returned? Will the Zionist enemy withdraw from southern Lebanon? Yitzhaq Shamir bluntly said: They know that we will not withdraw and that this land is ours forever. Why then these rounds, negotiations, statements, and conditions that are implemented if they are Zionist and ignored if they are Arab? Hafiz al-Asad knows that. He realizes what he is up to. What should others do? This is a legitimate Palestinian-Arab question.

Damascus' Decision on Syrian Jews 'Treacherous'

JN3004083692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Apr (INA)—AL-THAWRAH has condemned the Syrian regime's role in the implementation of the Zionist settlement plan.

In an article today, the paper says that after a long series of treacherous and painful acts against the Arab nation, the Damascus regime has run out of fig leaves.

This regime is now directly contributing to establishing the human base for the Zionist plan in the region—the plan of expansion and full control over the Arab land and future, the paper says.

The immigration of 4,500 Syrian Jews to Israel, the paper maintains, is not an ordinary operation by any standards. Rather, it is a precedent set by the Damascus regime at a time when the Arabs are facing a crisis involving their security, sovereignty, and future. The paper emphasizes that the Syrian step is the beginning of more serious deals. These deals, it says, will not be confined to selling out Arab land to allow the enemy to retain power and keep the regime but will certainly go as far as allowing the aggressive Zionist plan to stretch to its limit, whether by actual participation in the plan or by looking the other way.

AL-THAWRAH goes on to say: The disclosure of the plan [involving Syrian Jews] by Tel Aviv is not the end of the programmed coordination between Damascus and the enemy, be it direct or through Washington. What has been announced represents only the apparent part of what these sides have been cooking up. What is hidden, however, is undoubtedly more painful and more harmful to the options of the nation and the ambitions of its masses.

The paper draws the attention of the Arab masses to the serious conspiracy being implemented jointly by the Syrian regime and the Zionist entity. It urges these masses to counter, through their historical legitimacy, all attempts against their will and future before the agents drown our nation in the flood.

Shamir: 'No Delays' in Peace Talks Wanted

TA0105180892 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 May 92

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondents Shlomo Ganor and Arye Golan at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem on 1 May—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Ganor] Mr. Shamir, what additional round of talks are you expecting? When will it be held, and what are the main issues you would like to see at the center of the next round?

[Shamir] Well, we want to continue the talks according to the course we determined and proposed. We are not interested in any delays or foot-dragging. The next round can take place in May or shortly thereafter. We are not insisting on any specific date, but we do not want any delay either.

[Ganor] What about Israel's proposal to hold elections in the territories? Should that be viewed as an attempt to meet the Arab inhabitants halfway?

[Shamir] Anything that concerns the negotiations we shall discuss with them. We will not precede our talks with them with any statements to the media.

[Golan] Are you not afraid that if elections—even municipal elections—take place in the territories, then the parties that we find undesirable, such as the PLO, will simply be democratically elected and we will no longer be able to question them.

[Shamir] Everything we have proposed to date is the result of the thorough consideration of all possibilities and risks.

[Ganor] Are we considering turning over to the inhabitants of the territories anything other than health matters?

[Shamir] As I have said, anything that follows will be the result of continued negotiations.

Shamir Denies Compromise Offered on Diasporans

TA0305104092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 3 May 92

[Report by Jack Katzenell]

[Excerpt] In today's cabinet session, Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon asked Prime Minister Shamir who empowered the Israeli delegation to the bilateral talks to propose municipal elections in the territories, participation of the Palestinian diaspora in the multilateral talks and the EC's in the working group on disarmament. Shamir replied that the municipal elections are not a substitute for regional elections for the autonomy, only a different stage. As for the Palestinian diaspora participation in the multilaterals, Shamir said there is no such proposal.

Last week it was reported that Israel offered a compromise, namely that the Palestinian diaspora could attend the working groups on the refugee problems and regional economic development, but only as members of Arab national delegations and only if they held citizenship in these countries. Mr. Shamir says no such compromise was offered.

What about EC participation in the working group on regional arms control? Shamir said the details have not yet been worked out. My information is that Israel has agreed in principle to the EC attending the opening ceremony but the modalities of this participation have still to be agreed upon, as Shamir said, and the EC has acknowledged that at a meeting in Lisbon.

The French demand that France be allowed to take part as an independent power was rejected by Israel and is not supported by Germany or Britain. [passage omitted]

Rabin—Likud 'Backtracking' on General Elections

TA0205075192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] The heads of the Israeli delegation to the bilateral talks in Washington will brief the cabinet tomorrow. This was reported by our political correspondent Arye Golan. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes that in general, progress was made in the talks. Answering our political correspondent's question on whether he feared that people affiliated with the PLO would come to power if local elections were held, Yitzhaq Shamir said that Israel's proposal followed a thorough consideration of all possibilities and risks.

Labor Party Chairman Yitzhaq Rabin said that no progress was made by the government's representatives in the talks. On the contrary, he said, they have retreated from previously agreed-upon positions. Yitzhaq Rabin explained that several years ago, the unity government agreed on a peace initiative which called for general elections in the territories. Now the government is backtracking from this and proposing municipal elections only. Mr. Rabin was speaking before the Labor party's steering committee.

IDF Responds to Allegations on Shooting Policy

Baraq Protests TV Report

TA0305160192 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 3 May 92

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Excerpts] Addressing ministers at this morning's cabinet meeting, Lieutenant General Ehud Baraq noted a rise in the use of firearms against IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops. In spite of this, the chief of staff stressed, the legal basis of the rules of engagement has not changed. Baraq added soldiers open fire only when their lives are in jeopardy or when the wanted men cannot be

apprehended in any other way. To illustrate his point, the chief of staff noted that of the 1,400 apprehended suspects—including 130 who were carrying firearms—13 were killed, most of them shot while aiming a weapon. No one may violate instructions, and no one shoots indiscriminately, summed up Baraq.

Responding to a question from one of the ministers, the chief of staff reacted sharply to a report on Friday night's television news dealing with that issue. Baraq protested that after interviewing Major General Yatom for a whole hour, the reporters retained only two sentences, which were taken out of context. According to ministers' testimony, the chief of staff defined the television report as distorted and tendentious. He added that the television aired only part of the IDF spokesman's reaction, which was conveyed during the broadcast. Baraq contended that the television had omitted the most crucial phrase of the IDF spokesman's reaction, which stated: The television report about the alleged indiscriminate shooting is mistaken and misleading. [passage omitted]

In addition to the security briefing, ministers heard reports from heads of the negotiating delegations on the latest round of bilateral talks in Washington. Elyaqim Rubinstein defined the atmosphere in the talks with the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations as more acceptable than in the past. Yosi Ben-Aharon, too, reported slight progress in talks with the Syrians, although he limited the progress to tactical rather than substantive matters. In the talks with Lebanon, said Uri Lubrani, the Israeli position demanding that the Lebanese prevent terrorist activities along the security zone border was rejected. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 3 May also reports on the cabinet meeting, adding: "Yosi Ben-Aharon said that slight progress was made and a more direct atmosphere was felt at the talks, but the substantive gaps remained unchanged. At the same time, the Syrians are no longer denying the legitimacy of Israel's existence, he said."]

'Indiscriminate Fire' Denied

TA0305191792 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] The heads of the Israeli delegation to the Washington peace talks today briefed the cabinet, stating that slight progress was made in the talks with Syria during the last round of talks and that a matter-of-fact discussion took place in a good atmosphere with the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations. Our correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that it was emphasized that for the first time Syria had agreed to receive from Israel documents containing proposals for a settlement. Israel proposed that the next round of talks take place in Rome in two weeks, but the Arab delegations have not yet responded to Israel's proposal. The prime minister denied a report that Israel has agreed to a compromise on the matter of diaspora Palestinian representation in the multilateral talks.

The cabinet today also discussed two reports aired on television last Friday night. As for the report concerning the regulations on opening fire in the territories, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman announced that the legal basis for the rules of engagement has remained unchanged. The IDF spokesman stressed that firing is possible in two situations only: when life is endangered, and when the procedure for the detention of a suspect is implemented. In any event, firing is the last measure and is aimed at rendering the capture of a suspect possible, not at killing him. The IDF spokesman added that the rules of engagement are anchored in both military and state law and are individually endorsed by the legal elements in the IDF and the State Attorney's Office. The goal of the rules is to permit a struggle, under difficult conditions, against the hard-core activists of the intifadah. The IDF soldiers are following the letter and spirit of these rules. The IDF spokesman said that the claim, as aired in the television report, of indiscriminate fire on wanted people in the territories is wrong and misleading.

IDF Deputy on 'Rules of Engagement'

TA0205102892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0705 GMT 2 May 92

[Interview with Deputy Chief of Staff Amnon Shahaq by Dalya Ya'iri and army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe, at the deputy chief of staff's office in Tel Aviv "at the end of the week"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Menashe] Claims have been made recently that the changes in the new rules of engagement have led to soldiers opening fire in unwarranted circumstances.

[Shahaq] There has been a change recently. The recent change I would point to is the tremendous rise in the use of firearms by more wanted terrorists, or in other words, by people who know that we are looking for them and exactly why we are looking for them. These are people who have been involved in the murders of local residents and in the shooting at and occasional wounding of IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers. We know that they are mostly armed and in hiding. We take a very serious approach to our operations against wanted individuals. We regard them, and rightly so, as extremely dangerous military operations. We lost a soldier from the Shimson unit in an operation in Gaza. We have had soldiers injured in similar activities in Judaea and Samaria. There were several other incidents in which they fired at our soldiers without hitting anyone. These operations cannot be taken as lightly as the routine arrest of stone-throwers. Therefore, there are security regulations whose main aim is to enable the soldiers to defend themselves. Whenever a soldier finds himself in a life-threatening situation or engaged in a military operation, the primary aim of the regulations—together with the soldier's own personal judgment and his ability to use his weapon—is to offer the greatest possibility of completing his mission effectively. I consider this our duty to ourselves and to the soldiers we send out on these

missions. We never set out to hunt down wanted men on any condition. I read the papers and can only say that we are our own worst enemies. This is not news to anybody. I do not think that we have shied from examining things in the past. I do not think we have tried to whitewash anything. I think the military establishment has been very critical of itself, and I believe we inculcate in our soldiers the right military values. We will investigate any aberrant behavior; however, these soldiers are engaged in a war against armed terrorists who occasionally even hide and ambush them. Incidentally, the rules of engagement have not been changed; we have merely clarified them. We have not instituted a more liberal approach toward opening fire and any attempt to portray things as such is misleading the public. [passage omitted]

[Menashe] Moving on to another matter. All the parties to the peace process are now holding talks. Syria is the main threat as far as Israel is concerned. Do you, in your capacity as deputy chief of staff and former head of IDF intelligence, believe that they are sincere in their desire for peace?

[Shahaq] In this process, we have to examine deeds as well as intentions. I, like the rest of the Israeli people, can feel happy over Syria's recent decision [to allow the Jews to travel]. I can give you my private opinion of the reasons behind this move. I think that the Syrians acted wisely both from the humanitarian as well as from the international aspect by taking this action. It is a fact that they decided to take this step now, and not a week, year, or 10 years ago. I can only pray that this will be a prelude to further Syrian steps.

[Menashe] Syria, at any rate, is continuing its military buildup. Nor has it toned down its support of terrorism.

[Shahaq] All of the countries in the region, and not just Syria, are continuing their weapons purchases. We have to carefully monitor the military buildup in Syria and in all other regional countries as well. The peace process has just begun and is not yet ripe. No results have been achieved yet, and none of the neighboring countries participating in the process has abandoned its other options or ceased preparing its army for war. This is true of Syria and of other countries also.

[Ya'ari] Looking at Syria today, and considering the past year's international developments—especially the disintegration of the Soviet Union—would you say that the Syrians are now farther away from achieving strategic parity with Israel?

[Shahaq] In my opinion, definitely. Syria has disconnected itself from the world to a certain extent, and I would explain some of the Syrian moves as an attempt to rejoin the international community. Syria is not the only country in our region that is almost an external satellite of the international community, which I would say has stabilized and began playing by late 20th century rules. Syria's regime is still hidebound. This kind of regime is not common in the rest of the world. It exists among a small group of countries in the Middle East. On the other hand, I have no doubt that some of the changes taking place in the world have affected Syria. Over the past 15 years, a Syrian leader did not travel to Washington or London. He went to eastern Europe or the Soviet Union. Now he can see just where all those talks and all those officials have brought him. I assume he also thinks about himself and his country. I am certain that al-Asad wants what is best for Syria. As someone who seeks Syria's benefit, he drew the conclusions from the processes occurring throughout the world in the past few years. This is more than just the last year. I imagine that what we are seeing is the effect of this influence on Syria. I do not believe that strategic parity between Syria and Israel would have been possible even if the USSR had continued to exist as a superpower. I think that even with the support it had in the past—and Syria had massive support for many years, such as thousands of Soviet advisers and weapons which Syria was not even asked to pay for—it had no real chance of achieving strategic parity with Israel. I believe the Syrian leadership had already realized this several years ago. That is much more true today. Syria on its own cannot achieve strategic parity with Israel. If it decides to launch a war against Israel, it could put up a very tough and bloody fight, but it could never threaten Israel's existence on its own.

[Menashe] What degree of cooperation exists between Syria and Iran?

[Shahaq] There is cooperation. This has gone on for quite some time. The two countries have a mutual interest in such cooperation. They also support terrorist organizations such as Hizballah, whose spiritual patron is Iran, while Syria controls the areas in Lebanon from which Hizballah operates. Syria and Iran also cooperate in other fields. This cooperation is not very tight. The two countries have not signed any twin city agreement; however, they do cooperate on terror activities as well as other matters. I must qualify, however, that when I allude to terrorism I do not imagine that they actually conduct joint terror operations. Nevertheless, these are two countries that sponsor terrorist organizations and have not renounced the use of terrorism to further their own political goals. They do cooperate with each other.

[Menashe] Just how prepared is Israel to prevent Arab countries from achieving nuclear capability?

[Shahaq] Today, to the best of my knowledge, there is no nuclear threat in the Middle East. What must be done today is not to fight the nuclear threat but to prevent such a threat from developing. From here on the sky is the limit [preceding five words in English]. [passage omitted]

[Menashe] There have been no news on the POW's and MIA's. Are behind-the-scenes efforts continuing?

[Shahaq] The efforts on behalf of the POW's and MIA's will not cease until we know exactly all the facts and until we get our soldiers back. Therefore, this extremely difficult activity will not stop. We will continue to search

for every possible way to get results. Today, after most of the hostages in Lebanon have been returned home, I think we have been almost left alone in this matter. I believe there only two German hostages and our prisoners have not been returned. We will not stop our efforts until this happens.

[Ya'iri] Thank you, Major General Shahaq.

Likud Launches Election Campaign 3 May

Shamir Criticizes Opponents, Media

TA0305194192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] The ceremony marking the launching of the Likud's election campaign ended at Binyeney Ha'uma convention hall in Jerusalem a short while ago. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir was the main speaker during the ceremony. He said that today's struggle focuses on the future and character of Eretz Yisra'el. In his statement Shamir leveled criticism at his political opponents, and did not spare the media either.

Speaking earlier were Knesset Member Beni Begin, Moshe Nisim who heads the Likud's election campaign committee, Binyamin Netanyahu, Moshe Qatzav, Ari'el Sharon who was critical of Yitzhaq Rabin, and Moshe Arens. Also participating in the ceremony was entertainer Sefi Rivlin who delivered a political speech.

Likud To End Palestine 'Nightmare'

TA0405080192 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 May 92 pp A1, A8

[Report by Yerah Tal and Ilan Shehori]

[Excerpts] The Likud officially launched its election campaign last night with a sharp attack on Labor and its chairman, Yitzhaq Rabin.

The Likud's first election rally was held at the Binyeney Ha'uma convention hall. The harshest attack was delivered by Knesset Member Binyamin Begin, who won wild applause from the audience. "For many years we believed that the need to resort to 'yes-and-no' remarks was typical of Shim'on Peres, but we have learned since that this policy is typical of anyone who heads the Alignment list. Rabin turned this policy into an art. He says 'yes' to settlements, but only to those the Alignment wants to keep, calling them 'security settlements.' He says 'no' to a Palestinian state, but would like to see an independent Palestinian entity. I do not see the difference; Faysal al-Husayni does not see the difference; but Rabin really could not care less," Begin said. [passage omitted]

Speaking about Rabin, Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon said: "This man must not be allowed to resume the premiership. He already was prime minister and failed. After all, this is the same left whose representatives pressure U.S. congressmen to exert pressure on our government and who demand a cut in aid to Israel so that it will make concessions. Can someone who demands that Israel be pressured withstand pressure himself?" Sharon asked cynically.

Referring to criticism leveled at the Likud following the state comptroller's report, Sharon said: "The Likud does not even come close to the Alignment's level of corruption." Sharon lashed out at the state comptroller herself, saying that only when it comes to Likud civil servants does the comptroller take the trouble of mentioning them by name. "She did not mention the names of the Labor people she criticized. Are we ready to go back to the dark days of oppression by the left, when Likud men were starving?" Sharon called to the crowd, which unanimously responded: "No."

Unlike the speakers before him, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir avoided a direct attack on Rabin. He said that in the upcoming elections, the struggle will be over "the future, nature, and character of Eretz Yisra'el. When the historic shift took place 15 years ago and Menahem Begin moved from opposition to the premiership, the skeptics said this would be a passing phase. Fifteen years have passed and the Likud is still here. The leftists and defeatists ran out of patience, and they decided to join together in a supreme effort to prevent the Likud from winning another term in power. They are too late. They can no longer stop the Likud train, which is progressing toward positive changes and shifts.

"Several more years of Likud rule, and there will no longer be any mention of a Palestinian state. It will be totally unrealistic. No dangerous PLO state will be able to arise in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, which will have been settled by hundreds of thousands of Jews. The nightmare of a Palestinian state will be gone," Shamir said. He added that "those power-hungry left-wingers are gripped by fear and panic when the thought that the Likud may win again crosses their minds." [passage omitted]

A statement by Foreign Minister David Levi—currently in Nigeria to sign an agreement on the establishment of diplomatic relations—was read out. He stressed the Likud achievements in international relations and the promotion of the peace process. "History must not be stopped," he wrote.

The first Likud election rally, held at the Binyeney Ha'uma convention hall with the participation of 3,000 activists from around Israel, opened with the party's election jingle: "The Likud has got it right." The lyrics appeared on giant screens and powerful loudspeakers repeatedly played the jingle, written by Henri Bratter.

At the conclusion of the Likud rally, Labor election headquarters published a message stating that the Likud rally once again proved that an artificial show of smiles and cosmetics cannot cover up the sorry sight of a declining party which is burdened with the taint of

corruption and whose leaders' personal relations are those found in a hornets' nest. [passage omitted]

Judicial System in Territories 'Paralyzed'

TA0405052992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0400 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] A memo drafted by an officer of the Civil Administration in the territories states that the local judicial system is almost totally paralyzed due to the resignation of local policemen because of the intifadah. Criminals are not being brought to trial, witnesses are not being summoned, criminal investigations are not followed through, and murder suspects are being held in detention without trial for years.

Our correspondent Mira Amsalem says that the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria has warned that in the current state of affairs, it cannot provide the local residents with the appropriate services.

Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the police spokesman said that there is indeed a shortage of manpower in the territories because of the resignation of local policemen, but despite the problems and the uncomfortable working conditions of the police in the territories, law enforcement continues.

Two IDF Officers Discharged in Shooting Incident

TA0405055692 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Here is a report we have just received: IDF [Israel Defense Forces] Staff Sergeant Ya'aqov Shiman, 24, from Rishon Leziyyon, was killed around midnight last night during an IDF unit operation in the al-Fari'ah refugee camp in the Janin district. His family has been notified.

The incident took place when an IDF unit on a routine mission in the refugee camp heard several shots fired from one of the rooftops. The soldiers returned the fire. Shiman was shot and killed when the troops attempted to break into the house. His funeral will be held today at 1530 in the military cemetery in Rishon Leziyyon.

An initial debriefing held by the commander of the Central Command at the site revealed that the house in question is the home of the refugee camp mukhtar. The unit commander—a reserve officer with the rank of battalion commander—and his troops did not know that this was the mukhtar's house. The mukhtar claimed that he believed he was being attacked by local Arab residents and fired at them.

The Central Command commander discharged the officer because he was not prepared for his mission and was not familiar with the location of the mukhtar's house, as stipulated in the orders, and because he did not act properly during the incident. Another officer, a squad commander, was discharged for improper conduct during the event. The mukhtar was detained for questioning. The IDF and the police continue investigating the incident.

1,400 Palestinians Arrested, 13 Killed Since Jan

TA0305110692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Since the beginning of 1992, the security forces have arrested 1,400 fugitives from the law and other residents of Judaea and Samaria who were wanted for investigation. Two hundred of these individuals were suspected of hostile terrorist activity. In the course of the arrests, 13 wanted men were killed.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that these figures were given by Major General Dani Yatom, the commander of the Central Command, during a tour of the Bethlehem area. Maj. Gen. Yatom said that 44 IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers had been injured in Judaea and Samaria since the beginning of 1992. Eighty-two civilians had been injured by thrown stones, and 25 local residents were murdered by fellow Arabs on suspicion of cooperating with the authorities or for other reasons.

Maj. Gen. Yatom also noted that during this period 11 rifles, a heavy machine gun dating back to the time of Jordanian rule, 16 revolvers, an Uzi submachine gun, 10 hand grenades, and homemade bombs had been seized.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1005 GMT on 3 May in a report by Moti Amir adds that "there are still 400 individuals wanted by the authorities in Judaea and Samaria, and the security forces are doing everything possible to capture them." The report adds that Maj. Gen. Yatom said that "the improvement in intelligence gathering in Judaea and Samaria, the modification of the rules of engagement to conform to the reality of the war against terrorists, and the improvement in the security forces' operational capabilities, have effectively reduced the incidence of firearm attacks by approximately 30 percent." Noting that out of 1,400 captured suspects, only 13 were killed, Maj. Gen. Yatom notes: "This shows that our soldiers do not open fire under all circumstances but only in very selective situations."]

Reportage on Clashes in South Lebanon

SLA Positions Shelled 1 May

TA0205104392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Two SLA [South Lebanese Army] positions on the border of the security zone were attacked last night. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that artillery and heavy machine-gun fire were directed at the posts. SLA artillery returned fire at terrorist targets north of the security zone.

SLA Soldier Killed, 1 Wounded by Bomb

TA0205154892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] An SLA [South Lebanese Army] soldier was killed when a powerful bomb exploded along a road in southern Lebanon at noon today. Another soldier was slightly wounded. The bomb had been placed on a road used by patrols on the security zone border, in the eastern sector.

It was learned from the UNIFIL [UN Interim Force in Lebanon] command that SLA tanks and artillery reacted by firing at terrorist targets north of the security zone. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that it is mainly Hizballah that is active in the shelled area.

'Terrorists' Attack SLA Stronghold

TA0305074292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] An SLA [South Lebanese Army] position in south Lebanon was attacked last night by terrorists. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the terrorists launched several mortar shells and directed automatic weapons fire at the position. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and the SLA retaliated by firing several artillery rounds at Hizballah terrorists north of the security zone.

Foreign Minister Comments on Peace Talks Outcome

JN0205115692 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 May 92

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir by radio correspondent Khalil al-Qaryuti; date, place not given—recorded)

[Text] [al-Qaryuti] Your Excellency Dr. Abu-Jabir, what is your impression of the results of the fifth round of negotiations in Washington, which concluded the day before yesterday?

[Abu-Jabir] Our initial impression is that these negotiations are still moving in a vicious circle, although some sides have stated that there was progress in these negotiations. However, we cannot know the facts before our delegation returns and we consult it on this issue and assess what happened.

[al-Qaryuti] The upcoming round of negotiations will be held in Rome. When will this round be held?. In other words, is there a fixed date for that round?

[Abu-Jabir] There is no fixed date yet. The upcoming meeting of the Jordanian, Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian foreign ministers will discuss this issue, assess the results of the fifth round in Washington, and consider the timing of the sixth round.

[al-Qaryuti] Thank you, Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir.

[Abu-Jabir] You are welcome.

Prince Hasan Praises U.S. Role in Peace Talks

JN0405073892 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1921 GMT 3 May 92

[Address by Crown Prince Hasan to the annual conference of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, ADC, in Washington, delivered via satellite "early this morning"—recorded]

[Excerpts] Senator Abu Rizek, dear friends, distinguished delegates: I am happy to be able to make this live, in the sense that the peace negotiations, as you know, have broken up, have adjourned, and in commenting on the recent past, I think it is more relevant to be direct at this time. I'd like to say that the fact of the continued participation by all parties to the peace process is truly a credit to all involved. I particularly like to mention this in respect of the vital role played by the United States, and indeed, by the cosponsors to the process.

This is a conflict, as we all know, which is deeply embedded in the public psyche, as the Arab-Israeli conflict the oldest extant conflict of political rights and the search for self-determination is and will continue to be. It cannot be resolved without evenhanded mediation and indeed by an honest broker. And in this regard, let me say clearly that both President Bush and Secretary Baker have striven consistently to provide that mediation and that moderation. And here I would like to refer to your earlier remarks about saying no to the loans. It was the President and the secretary who said no to the loans, no to Israel's request for $10 billion in housing loan guarantees. And I have to say from the Arab world how much credibility, widespread credibility this position, this principled stance, has earned them. [applause]

In turn, this achievement is, in large part, a tribute to the role played by organizations, such as the ADC [Arab-American Anti- Discrimination Committee], [applause] who have maintained public awareness of the true facts and figures, and more important, the issues at stake. [passage omitted]

When we speak, dear friends, of civil rights, of the obligations of a state to those living under its regime, we might note at the outset that a state of prolonged military occupation and the continuous process of land confiscation and settlement building, are far removed from the philosophical premise that leads to considering questions of rights in the first place.

When a state describes itself as a democracy, we presume that it guarantees both basic civil and human rights of all those under its regime. I do not wish to enumerate the violations of human rights taking place in the West Bank, Jerusalem, and Gaza. But I do wish to emphasize that these violations take place within the context of the violation of the basic Palestinian political rights. [applause] And I cannot but underline that unless these basic political, human rights are respected and translated into concrete institutions, the vision of peace cannot be realized. [applause]

The substance of negotiations must therefore comprise all the varied problems caused by 45 years of conflict. It is encouraging that the round of negotiations which just ended in Washington a few hours ago, seems to be evolving towards a common, if conflicting, vision of what true peace means. While it seems that there remains a wide gap between the Palestinian and the Israeli interpretation of interim self-government, both consider that elections constitute a vital element in any process moving us from occupation to liberation. [passage omitted]

Our aspirations, ladies and gentlemen, a world of human peace, cooperation, and mutual interchange beyond boundaries is one for which we have long worked, a world beyond discrimination in which each and every individual has the right and the chance to develop free from fear, free from prejudice, free from intolerance and oppression of every kind. This is a goal worthy of our best endeavors in the peace process [applause], in promoting new thinking and fresh approaches, in the ways we conduct our affairs. Jordan has always been and will remain absolutely committed to this goal. It is source of

strength for us to know that you share our commitment and our vision and stand by us through these times of challenge and change.

I thank you all for all that you have done, and for your time and attention, and I wish you all success in this gathering and beyond. With that, dear friends, with that Mr. Chairman, I am willing, in whatever time is left, to field your questions and once again to interact with my family in Washington this evening. Thank you. [applause]

[Abu-Rizek] Thank you Prince Hasan. Can you hear me all right?

[Hasan] Indeed, very much Sir.

[Abu-Rizek] This is Jim Abu-Rizek. Thank you very much for getting up that early in the morning. You did not look so bad after all.

[Hasan, laughing] Well, I went to Oxford, but I am still excelling. [as heard] [laughter and applause].

[Abu-Rizek] Well, I have some questions that have been sent up here. I want to lump two or three, there are two or three here that I would like to lump together. First of all, would you take just a minute to clarify Jordan's position on the Gulf war, and then respond to the questions as follows: Do you have any regrets about the stance you took during the Gulf war, and do you expect that there will be inter-Arab reconciliation in the Arab world, with the looming Iranian threat?

[Hasan] Well, if I could lump them together, as you said. I do not necessarily have to like them, but I will lump them together, and start with the last as first and to say that, not only do I expect but I would hope, effectively that there would be Arab reconciliation on a scale of 10, because so many regional issues await our attention, whether it is the question of Arab participation in the bilateral and multilateral peace talks, whether it is a question of Arab concern for a new regional order of security and cooperation, we simply have to come closer to the international idiom, and to continue to personalize our differences is not going to lead us anywhere other than into greater fragmentation, and possibly with reference to your last question, to further ethnic fragmentation within the region. God knows we see enough ethnic fragmentation in the Balkans and in the Asian republics. We do not need Lebanonization and Balkanization of the wider West Asian Middle East region.

Do we have any regrets? I think all Arabs have regrets over the Gulf war and its aftermath [applause]. These last two years have been more like 30 years in their duration and in the strain that they have implied to us all. Our only regret is that the invasion and the annexation of Kuwait could have been avoided in the first instance, and that this conflict, with all its tragic consequences, could have been, in some way, contained. Today, we entered the peace process, all of us governored to a certain extent by the dividend of the war and those tragic consequences. As far as our position is concerned, geopolitics dictates the position of states and intergrity and awareness demonstrates the position of peoples. I think that as far as the Jordanian people are concerned, as far as the Palestinian people are concerned we are and will always be the conduit of ideas and the contributors to regional peace, stability, and progress. [applause]

[Abu-Rizek] I am told that we have about eight and a half minutes of satellite time left. The next question: Is Jordan likely to develop a federation with the Palestinian occupied lands in the near future as part of a negotiated transition towards an autonomous Palestinian state?

[Hasan] You don't develop a confederation with land. As you know, Jordan did not cede occupied land to Israel. Jordan, as you may remember, in the period of the early fifties, was a member of the United Nations as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and indeed exercised its responsibilities in full up to the 1967 war. The representation in those lands is an issue I referred to in my statement. We believe firmly that the Jordanian-Palestinian umbrella means enhancing Palestinian representation and Palestinian positions on Palestinian issues on Palestinian land. If it is their wish, when that land is liberated, to seek formulas of cooperation with Jordan, then it is for them to exercise that political right after that final status is achieved. [applause]

[Abu-Rizek] Since Jordan is a pioneering country in terms of democratization, how far are you and His Majesty King Husayn willing to go in this process, particularly in view of the increase in the impact and the size of the fundamentalist movement?

[Hasan] Well Jim, someone once said: Democracy is not for the fainthearted. And I would like to say very centrally that we believe in richness in diversity. [applause] I know that the term fundamentalist has been used very liberally, but I believe that it should be used in the plural, fundamentalisms, where a Christian, Jewish, or Muslim leaning tends towards fanatical political positions which, in a sense, are exacerbated by an absence of conflict resolution. We say a spiral in the politics of despair and the economics of despair, but what is important to recognize in the Jordanian context that whether the background of political parties are Islamic, Arab nationalists, patriotic, in whatever form of expression, the important thing is the institutionalizing of democracy and the deepening of those institutions, and this is what we look forward to in the years ahead, through our elections and through the reform of our election law and through, effectively, inviting greater participation. For, we feel democracy is the only hope for self-expression in this part of the world. We cannot preach it and expect others to observe it and respect it if we do not apply it ourselves. [applause]

[Abu-Rizek] Could you please give us your comments on the latest Israeli proposals for municipal elections in the West Bank?

[Hasan] As I said, I think that the comments have been adequately made by the Palestinian representatives in those talks. I believe that municipal elections, as I understand from the comments made by Palestinian spokesmen and spokespersons, are very clear. The municipal elections per se fall short of any acceptable vision of interim self-government, and yet it does seem, given the statements today by the American participants and observers in this process, that there is a positive tonality to the end or the conclusion of this round of meetings. So, one only hopes that as we look towards a forthcoming round, possibly in Rome—a date has not yet been set—that the issue of representation in those territories goes beyond municipal elections and moves us effectively to more comprehensive Palestinian representation. [passage omitted]

Awqaf Minister Receives Iranian Delegation

JN0305170692 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh 'Izz-al-Din al-Khatib al-Tamimi, minister of awqaf and Islamic affairs and holy places, received in his office today a religious delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran led by Ayatollah Taskhiri, adviser to the leader of the Islamic revolution and head of the World Al al-Bayt Foundation. During the meeting, the officials stressed the need promote bilateral relations in Islamic fields.

The minister of awqaf said that the visit of Ayatollah Taskhiri and his delegation falls within efforts to coordinate relations and bolster ties of friendship and brotherhood between Jordan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to coordinate efforts in cultural fields, Koranic studies, and exchange of expertise in the fields of holy Koran recitation and calligraphy. His eminence added that this visit aims for coordination between Jordan and Iran to preserve Islamic heritage and to exchange expertise in the field of Islamic endowments.

In a meeting with Information Minister Mahmud al-Sharif today, the Iranian guest expressed his happiness over his visit to Jordan and voiced pride in the progress of relations between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Islamic Republic of Iran. He called for consolidating and enhancing relations in a manner that serves the interests of both peoples and the Islamic world. His eminence said that the media can play a central role in this regard and in consolidating understanding among peoples. He also called for exchanging labor and media delegations between the two countries, and for opening offices for the Jordanian and Iranian news agencies in Amman and Tehran.

The information minister welcomed Ayatollah Taskhiri's visit to Jordan and affirmed Jordan's desire, under His Majesty King Husayn, to improve and promote relations between the two Muslim countries for their common good. He said: We are living in an extremely complicated world in which people's views differ for a variety of reasons. However, he said, that should not obstruct the maintaining of cordial relations with the aim of preserving the Islamic peoples' basic common elements, especially as they face common and similar challenges. The minister promised to study means to promote media cooperation between the two countries.

The meeting was attended by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Amman (Hasanayn Marijiani) and the delegation accompanying his eminence the guest.

Dailies Comment on Disturbances in U.S. Cities

JN0305195292 [Editorial Report]

[Editorial Report] The three Jordanian Arabic dailies AL-RA'Y, AL-DUSTUR, and SAWT AL-SHA'B of 3 May and AL-DUSTUR of 1 May publish—in addition to factual reports citing global news agencies—several articles commenting on the disturbances that took place in Los Angeles and across the United States recently.

Amman AL-DUSTUR of 1 May carries on page 20 a 300-word article within the "A Stand" column by Muhammad Ka'wash under the headline "From Los Angeles to 'Ayun Kara," in which the writer says: "In a racist society like the United States, people cannot think with freedom, and justice cannot prevail despite technological progress, military growth, and political hegemony under the umbrella of the new world order." The writer continues to say that the events in Los Angeles remind him of Israeli soldiers who broke the bones of three youths in the West Bank and who were later acquitted by a "racist" court, as well as of the "massacre" of Italian workers in Chicago. Concluding, Ka'wash says: "Therefore, we share the feelings of blacks in Los Angeles and shout aloud with them: No justice, no peace."

The 3 May edition of Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B publishes on page 2 a 600-word article within the "An Issue and An Opinion" column by Salamah 'Ukur under the headline "Will Civil War Break Out in America?" In this article, the writer says that "the acts of violence and terrorism which swept across most of the United States" are the result of "grudges accumulated because of the policy of racial segregation against colored citizens, including the people native to that country." After reviewing the economic and social difficulties facing "black citizens" in American society, 'Ukur says: "The acts of terrorism and violence in the United States last week have exposed the fragility of stability and shown that the people's life, wealth, and property are exposed to danger." The writer adds: "These acts have also shown that human rights—which the U.S. Administration uses to blackmail the countries and nations of the world, that do not revolve in its orbit, and to interfere in their internal affairs—are violated in the United States blatantly and even more so than in the racist South African regime." He adds that in dealing with its white and black citizens, the U.S. Administration uses "a double standard." The writer then expresses his belief that a "civil war" will break out across the United States, "particularly since all the executive, legislative, judicial, and

press authorities in America are biased toward whites and practice increasing coercion against blacks." The writer then says that any society that lacks "justice, security, and peace" is a "fragile" society. 'Ukur then concludes his article with the following question: "Has America begun to rot from the inside and has the countdown along the road to collapse already begun?"

Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B on 3 May also publishes on page 20 a 400-word article by 'Arafat Hijazi under the headline: "Libya, Hollywood, and the Justice of American Courts." The writer begins his article as follows: "If the Libyans had one reason for not handing over their citizens to stand trial in the United States, today, they have a thousand reasons now that uprisings have broken out in major cities in California, and even spread to the city of arts and cinema, Hollywood." The writer adds: "The Americans themselves did not find fairness and justice in American courts—where U.S. President Bush said many times the Libyans would find a just and fair trial—because of color discrimination. What will the case be like when there is discrimination based on race and religion?" Hijazi then says that the "uprising of blacks in California" will remain "a distinctive mark in the reality of American justice and will remain a strong pretext to the Libyans showing that the international legitimacy, of which they often speak, is nothing more than a new trap to liquidate the justice of other nations and to encroach on their rights, so that the law of jungle will remain the law of the strongest party which can play with words and slogans as it sees fit."

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic on 3 May publishes articles by three Jordanian columnists reacting to the Los Angeles riots, sounding a note hostile to the establishment in America and sympathetic toward the cause of black Americans.

On page 26, the paper publishes an approximately 800-word article by Fakhri Salih. He writes that the "civil unrest" in the United States will test President Bush's "prospects for another term in office," and maintains that U.S. society "has been based on racial segregation ever since it trounced the red Indians."

In an approximately 650-word article on the same page, Muhammad Ka'wash contends that the acts of violence may stop once this burst of anger peters out, but under the ashes live coals will continue to simmer, since as "a mosaic setup, American society is sick and suffering from many ills, not least of which are racial discrimination, organized crime, drug addiction, and a declining economy." Ka'wash concludes by holding out the possibility that the United States may disintegrate and face the same fate as the former Soviet Union.

In an approximately 400-word article on page 28, Mu'nis al-Razzaz writes that the disturbances in Los Angeles and other U.S. cities "once again put the spotlight on the racist character of the American system, showing the mightiest power on earth to be a capitalist, imperialist, racist force." He maintains that the Israeli regime is the U.S. system's look-alike. "The red Indians and blacks are not faring any better than the Palestinians," al- Razzaz writes. He concludes by calling into question the democratic credentials of the United States, arguing that democracy and racism are an unlikely combination.

Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic on 3 May publishes on page 12 an approximately 400-word article within the "Something" column by columnist and Jordanian Deputy Fakhri Qa'war under the headline "It Is Not an Issue of Defending Justice." In his column, Qa'war says that the current acts of violence in California and other states are not in support of justice or of a black who was badly beaten. He explains that contrary to media interpretations, "what is going on is a popular movement by impoverished Americans to express their indignation at the monopolistic capitalist system which is crushing their bones and denying them one of their most basic rights, which is the right to work." He notes that the unemployment rate among blacks hovers around 35 percent. The writer goes on to say that it is the same capitalist mentality that hit Iraq and declared an embargo on Libya.

The same paper publishes on page 30 a 450-word article by columnist 'Abd-al-Rahim 'Umar within his "I Say a Word" column under the headline "President Bush's View of the U.S. Judiciary," in which he reviews President George Bush's remarks on the incidents and call for a new trial of the involved policemen. The writer concludes his article with the following question: "If this is the President's view of the U.S. judiciary, and if these disasters are some of its results, how does his excellency drive the UN Security Council to adopt resolutions forcing Libya to hand over its own citizens to such a judicial system?"

On the same page, AL-RA'Y publishes a 400-word article by columnist Badr 'Abd-al-Haqq within his "Just an Opinion" column under the headline "The Tragedy of Black Motorist Rodney [King] and the Tragedy of U.S. Justice." The writer regrets the widespread view that the U.S. political, social, legal, and economic system achieves justice, freedom, and equality. He explains that this view is full of fallacies. He says: "The story of motorist Rodney [King] reminds us, as Arabs, of the false U.S. justice that the U.S. Administration practiced during the Gulf crisis when it opted for a double standard."

Magazine Reports Steps Toward Syrian Withdrawal

NC0405103092 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] AL-RAQIB magazine, owned by Prime Minister 'Umar Karami, carries a front-page report citing political sources close to Damascus that in due time the Syrian forces will take a series of steps on the ground leading to a withdrawal from some locations in the capital, as happened at Beirut International Airport and its environs.

Fadlallah Warns Afghan Mojahedin Against Infighting

NC0105220492 Paris AFP in English 2040 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Beirut, May 1 (AFP) - A Muslim fundamentalist leader Friday warned Afghan mojahedin who took power in Kabul last week not to end up fighting amongst themselves because it would benefit the United States.

"Don't you kill each other," urged Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, the spiritual guide of pro-Iranian fundamentalists in Lebanon.

"Don't let the power struggle tear you apart because world imperialism is pitiless and will not spare you," he said during Friday prayers in a Beirut suburb.

"America wants the new regime in Afghanistan to apply a 'polite' Islam, in other words to brandish Islam as a slogan like many other regimes, but to act on the political and economic level according to American directives," he said.

"The Afghan mojahedin, in all their factions, have offered martyrs to defend Islam," the shaykh added.

"You have succeeded in conquering atheist imperialism," he said, referring to the victory over the troops of the former Soviet Union. "Don't now fall into the arms of American imperialism."

Reportage on Israeli-Lebanese Clashes in South

Israelis Reinforce Positions

NC0105082892 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Security reports from southern Lebanon indicate that the Israeli enemy's forces have reinforced their positions in the Miri- 'Uqub area. They have also cut the road there with an earth barricade. The Israeli forces have also reinforced their positions in Arnun castle and started training operations for their personnel in the Miri-al-Majidiyah area. This training has been accompanied by a general alert in the ranks of Agent Lahd's militia [South Lebanese Army].

Israelis Bombard Iqlim al-Tuffah

NC0305164492 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 3 May 92

[Excerpt] According to security sources, Israeli forces and their agent allies shelled positions in southern Lebanon today for the fifth day in a row. Israeli and agent artillery stationed in the occupied strip fired 25 shells at 'Ayn al-Tinah, Birkat Jabbur, and Abu Rashid in western al-Biqa'. The sources said that there had been no report on casualties in the three-minute artillery shelling.

Yesterday, Israeli and agent artillery shelled a number of villages controlled by Hizballah in southern Lebanon in the wake of an attack by the Lebanese resistance that killed an agent soldier and injured another.

The Israeli bombardment continued sporadically until this afternoon against areas of al-Nabatiyah. Villages in Iqlim al- Tuffah—particularly Jba', 'Ayn bu Siwar, Jarju', Tallat Mlita, and Jabal Safi—have been the targets of a large number of shells and sniper fire from the occupied positions since yesterday evening. [passage omitted]

Gunmen Kill Lebanese Forces Official

NC0305161092 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Gunmen this afternoon assassinated Nadim 'Abd-al-Nur, the Lebanese Forces political official in western al-Biqa'.

According to reports, gunmen driving a BMW 528 and a Land Rover lay in ambush for martyr 'Abd-al-Nur as he was leaving his home in al-J'itawi, al-Ashrafiyah. A gunman got out of the BMW and fired seven shots into the martyr's chest and head, killing him instantly. The martyr was carrying his child Tony and holding the hand of his other son, 'Abdu.

The martyr was born in 'Aytanit, western al-Biqa', in 1963. He was married and has two sons: 'Abdu, 8, and Tony, 1 year 8 months.

Islamic Resistance Claims Strike

NC0405100192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Tension is prevailing in the Iqlim al-Tuffah area following the repeated attacks against its villages for the past several days. These attacks were resumed this morning, according to our correspondent in the area. The villages of Jba', 'Ayn Bu Siwar, Jarju', and 'Arab Salim came under Israeli artillery fire from positions of

the Israeli occupation on the opposite side. The results of this shelling are still unknown.

The Israeli shelling also extended to western al-Biqa' villages, concentrating on the 'Ayn al-Tinah area. Sources of the Islamic Resistance reported that there are ten casualties in Mashgharah.

The Islamic Resistance has carried out an operation against the occupation position. One of its groups carried out an attack from within the occupied border strip against an occupation position in al-Rayhan. A statement issued by the Islamic Resistance noted that the position was directly hit and columns of smoke and fire were seen rising from the position.

Al-'Allaf on Conditions For Progress in Peace Talks

JN0405065792 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Tunis—Muwaffaq al-'Allaf, head of the Syrian delegation to the peace talks in Washington has stressed that the Israeli position during the talks was still based on prevarication, and attempted to waste time without allowing the peace process to advance to reach practical measures for implementing Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

In a telephone contact with Tunis radio, al-'Allaf said that Israel's position is not positive, whether before or after the Israeli elections. He said that until now the cosponsors of the conference have asserted their seriousness toward the peace process and that to achieve results, substantive issues should be tackled.

Regarding Syria's measures toward Syrian Musawites [Jews], al- 'Allaf stressed that this decision was made by the Syrian leadership and has nothing to do with the bilateral talks. It is an internal decision within the framework of decisions made by President Hafiz al-Asad since since his assumption of power in Syria to minimize routine procedures for all Syrian citizens.

Regarding the continuation of the forthcoming talks in Rome, al- 'Allaf stated that Israel is the only obstacle to progress in the talks. He said that to eliminate obstacles, it is necessary for Israel to admit, before the conference cosponsors, its real willingness to achieve peace, that it accepts to engage in talks with all Arab tracks on the practical implementation of international resolutions, and announces its readiness to withdraw from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, and to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people and the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories.

Commentaries Score Israeli Stance in Peace Talks

Israeli 'Success' in 'Foiling' 5th Round

JN0105152992 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 1 May 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] As expected, the fifth round of Washington talks ended without achieving any progress. The Israeli side insisted on terminating the talks after it employed the past four days to make false and distorted statements and interpretations on the events in the region and the UN Security Council resolutions to the effect that the Arabs are the aggressors, that Israel is the victim, and that the UN Security Council resolutions are not binding when it comes to withdrawal from the occupied territories.

Despite the fact that the Arab delegations have persistently sought to extend the duration of the talks for, at least, one more week and provide a chance to discuss substantive issues and the basic elements of the conflict, the Israeli side insisted on terminating the talks and proposed to resume them in Rome before the Israeli elections, scheduled for June.

As much as the Israeli side was insisting on ending the fifth round without achieving any results, it was eager to take from the Arab delegations a decision to hold a sixth round in Rome before 23 June. It was obvious to everyone that the Israeli prime minister has sent his negotiators to Washington for purely electioneering purposes to serve the Likud's interests, and that his demand to hold a sixth round is part of his election campaign.

Such a position shows a flagrant disdain for the peace process and clear contempt for the cosponsors of the talks. This is not strange to the Israeli rulers, who have always exploited the issue of peace and who have even used peace as an excuse to launch wars and commit serious acts of aggression.

While the Arab delegations, as well as numerous international quarters, were voicing disappointment, the Israeli negotiators were expressing satisfaction and talking about achieving progress. It is clear that the progress they were referring to was their success in foiling the fifth round, just like they did the four previous ones, bearing in mind that the Washington talks were launched on the basis of land for peace and UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These two resolutions call on Israel to withdraw from all occupied Arab territories and respect the rights of the Palestinian people.

Yitzhaq Shamir has pledged to the extremist Zionists not to withdraw from a single inch of the occupied territories and to forge ahead with plans for Greater Israel by building hundreds of new settlements, by changing the demographic features of the occupied territories, and by bringing in scores of thousands of Jews to these territories. Yitzhaq Shamir has gone so far with his aggressiveness as to wager on grabbing peace from the Arabs, keeping their territory, and drawing them into regional cooperation agreements that will be utilized by Israel to invade regional markets.

When we assess the outcome of the fifth round, we find the following: Flagrant Israeli threats to Lebanon demanding that it stop demanding the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 425; distorted Israeli interpretations presented to the Syrian delegation concerning Resolutions 242 and 338, to the effect that the Tel Aviv rulers have the right to continue with occupation and annexation; and a obscure promise to the Palestinians on the possibility of holding municipal elections and making them run hospitals in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Such an outcome demonstrates Israel's firm objective to swallow up and Judaize the Arab territories, regardless of the consequences such an aggressive policy will have on the prospects for peace in the Middle East. Throughout the five rounds, the Israelis have made no mention of

withdrawal. They have never referred—not even implicitly—to their readiness to implement UN Security Council resolutions. They even claim that these resolutions do not put any obligation on them and that the Arabs must submit to the plans for Greater Israel.

Before the start of the fifth round, President Hafiz al-Asad warned that peace and the occupation of territory can never coexist. At the same time, he stressed that all Arab territory will remain the property of Arabs and that the building of a settlement here or there cannot change this fact. The outcome of the fifth round has reinforced the conviction that Israel's rulers do not want peace and hold the belief that peace will destroy their expansionist schemes.

If the Washington talks have exposed the positions of the Israeli rulers, which are hostile to peace and drenched in aggressiveness, then it is very important to encircle these people and put an end to their exploitation of peace by stopping any participation in the talks on regional cooperation or, at the very least, by connecting such participation with the achievement of a substantive progress in the bilateral talks. This will provide an additional factor of pressure against the world community to make it shoulder its responsibilities and deprive Shamir of one of his election cards. In the end, the world community has no option but to confront the Israeli rulers' maneuvers and subversive acts and rescue peace in the Middle East, as well as throughout the world.

Shamir's Peace Equals Arab 'Surrender'

JN3004174592 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: No sooner did the Israeli delegation enter the negotiating room in Washington last Monday than it announced its intention to suspend the talks on Thursday, 30 April, and asked to hold a sixth round in Rome prior to the 26 June Israeli elections.

The Israeli delegation devoted all its time to presenting distorted interpretations of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and reading lengthy statements on alleged Arab attacks on the Zionist entity.

The Israeli delegation also made threats against Lebanon aimed at making it retract its demand to implement Resolution 425 and presented a plan to the Palestinians for municipal elections in the West Bank and Gaza that excludes Jerusalem. Such a plan circumvents the right to self-determination and ending occupation and settlement activity.

It is very clear that the Israeli delegation has come to Washington to obstruct the fifth round, just as it did the previous four rounds, and to cloud the air for purely electoral purposes. Thus, Israeli negotiators have spoken about making progress, whereas there is no progress at all; they also expressed optimism when there is no room for optimism. Moreover, they have consistently tried to implement Shamir's plan, which aims at deceiving world public opinion and securing Israeli votes.

In fact, the attitude of Israel's rulers toward the peace process was summed up by Yitzhaq Shamir when he said: We will achieve peace, preserve the land of Israel, and absorb millions. The peace that Shamir is talking about and promising the Zionists is the surrender of the Arabs, relinquishment of their rights and territories, and acknowledgment of Greater Israel and the intensive Jewish emigration as established facts.

When Shamir's negotiators in Washington express optimism and say that progress has been made, they try to give the Israelis the impression that the Likud's promises to achieve peace are about to be realized and that the Arabs will eventually recognize the established facts of occupation, settlements, and annexation. The Israelis' request for a sixth round in Rome prior to the elections in Israel is part of the electoral propaganda and the policy of deliberate deception.

Hence the Syrian delegation's prompt move to reveal the truth of what is going on inside the negotiating room, dot the i's, expose the maneuvers of the Israeli side, and rebut its proposals, which are far removed from the peace process.

The Lebanese, Palestinian, and Jordanian delegations have also revealed the intentions of the Israeli delegation and its attempt to obstruct the peace process, its refusal to discuss fundamental issues, and its desire to terminate the talks quickly without giving any acceptable justification.

The Arabs have come to the Washington talks sincerely with a real desire to achieve peace and spare the Middle East of wars, tension, and turmoil. But, once again, they have been faced with Zionist intransigence and schemes to swallow up their territory and cast away their rights, contrary to Security Council resolutions.

It is axiomatic today for all countries that peace in the Middle East is contingent on Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories and the establishment of the rights of the Palestinian people. UN resolutions, including Resolutions 242 and 338, have stipulated withdrawal and the achievement of Palestinian rights. The Israeli rulers, however, refuse to abide by these resolutions, disregard international legitimacy, and are pushing the region to the brink of a conflagration, thus subjecting world peace and security to a very grave danger.

Israel's rulers will not gain anything from their attempt to pose as victims. This is because the whole world now knows that they are the source of wars and attacks and a hotbed of terrorism, and that their criminal conduct is antithetical to the principles of justice, right, and peace.

Peace cannot be pursued by making deceptive statements, but by responding to the requirements of peace.

foremost of which are ending occupation and lifting injustice against the Palestinian people. Israel's rulers not only want to entrench occupation and injustice, but also claim that they have the right to share the region's resources and wealth, thus delivering a strong blow to the peace initiative that has created a unique opportunity to establish a just, comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

UN Fact-Finding Delegation Arrives in Damascus

JN2904192992 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1815 GMT 29 Apr 92

[Text] Damascus—A UN fact-finding delegation arrived in Damascus this evening to examine Israel's human rights violations in the occupied Syrian Golan and the occupied Arab territories. It has been decided that the delegation will meet with senior Foreign Ministry officials tomorrow to receive a report on human rights violations in the occupied Syrian Golan.

The delegation will also hear testimony from a number of Golan citizens and will also visit the liberated city of al-Qunaytirah. The delegation is headed by the Sri Lankan ambassador to Cairo and includes a number of diplomats and UN officials from various countries.

Al-Shar' Returns to Damascus After Attending Cairo Meeting

JN3004152892 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1415 30 Apr 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this afternoon after participating in the 97th session of the Arab League Council which was held in Cairo at the foreign ministers level.

The session concluded with the adopting of a number of basic resolutions dealing with the Arab-Zionist conflict, the Palestine question, as well as political, economic, legal, and administrative issues that concern the interests of the Arab nation.

Al-Shar' Remarks Reported

JN3004171192 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this afternoon after participating in the 97th session of the Arab League Council, which was held in Cairo at the foreign ministers level.

The session concluded with the adopting of several major resolutions on the Arab-Zionist conflict, the Palestine question, as well as political, economic, legal, and administrative issues that concern the interests of the Arab nation.

In a predeparture statement, al-Shar' said that the Arab League Council had achieved positive results in regards to the Libyan case and issued a clear statement in this regard, expressing deep concern over the Security Council resolution imposing sanctions on Libya. He pointed out that Security Council Resolution 784 was issued after the Arab League Council had issued several resolutions stressing support for Libya and offering help to resolve the crisis peacefully and in accordance with international law.

The foreign minister said he believed the Libyan crisis, in its current framework, has created some sort of a predicament in the Arab situation for a simple reason, namely, because there are Arab resolutions which had been issued before the Security Council resolution. He added: We, as Arab states, are committed to the Arab League Charter and the Security Council resolutions to impose binding measures against Libya. From this angle, we are members in the United Nations and cannot ignore Security Council resolutions. Al-Shar' added that this contradiction between resolutions issued by the Arab League Council and a resolution issued by the Security Council must be resolved, because it has created a crisis in the Arab situation and Arab commitments. He added: We, as Arabs, are committed, from a pan-Arab perspective, to support Libya and can do nothing other than continue to adopt this position, especially since it is a position based on international law and specific Libyan proposals that were unanimously approved by the Arab foreign ministers, who said that these proposals meet and respond to Security Council Resolution 731 and provide an appropriate peaceful solution to this crisis.

Answering a question regarding the Libyan proposals, al-Shar' said that these proposals were contained in a message addressed by the Arab League secretary general to the UN secretary general, and through him to the president and members of the Security Council. Among these proposals was a specific Libyan proposal indicating Libya's willingness to hand over the two suspects to any agreed-upon neutral state to conduct a fair trial for the two suspects in that state.

Al-Shar' said that if the aim is to put the two Libyan suspects on trial and achieve justice, then the Libyan proposal meets this objective. If the aim, however, is to punish the Libyan people, we, as Arab states, can never accept this, he added.

Regarding future activities that the seven-member Arab committee will carry out, since Syria is a committee member, al- Shar' said that over the past few weeks the committee went to Tripoli and Rabat and convened under the chairmanship of King Hassan II. In the past two days, the Arab League Council gave a mandate to the seven-member committee to embark on necessary contacts to explain the reality of the Arab position supporting Libya, and to explain the justice of this position and the realism of the Libyan proposals and the possibility of finding a peaceful settlement to this crisis that is satisfactory to all parties.

He added: We still hope that a peaceful and acceptable solution to this crisis will be reached to help to get out of this dilemma.

Regarding measures the Arab League would implement, the foreign minister said that in accordance with Article 50 of the UN Charter, the Arab countries, in light of their pan-Arab commitments and because they adopted resolutions supporting Libya, and in order to continue to be harmonious with international legitimacy and the UN resolutions on this subject, they can request from the Security Council to be exempted from abiding by Security Council Resolution 748 for reasons related to their pan-Arab commitments and historical and cultural bonds that bring the Arab countries together, because in reality they belong to a one Arab nation. Therefore, it is illogical that one part of this nation boycotts another part, especially since we still believe that the Arab League has dealt with the Libyan question in a sound manner, and that the Libyan proposals are harmonious with international law and international legitimacy.

Answering a question on the peace talks, the foreign minister stressed that up to this very moment, the Israeli side wants to have talks but not realize results. The evidence of this is that the Israelis themselves allocated only a few days for the talks so that they can say that there are talks going on and that there is talk about peace, without giving enough chance for deep and substantial talks to reach positive and substantial results.

He added that naturally, as long as the Israelis continue to defy the substance of the peace process by refusing to implement Resolutions 242 and 338, they are furnishing the evidence that they are not only obstinate, but also not serious about reaching positive results; results for which the entire world are waiting.

Regarding his evaluation of the resolutions adopted on the Golan Heights and the Palestine question, al-Shar' said the Arab League has adopted a number of resolutions dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Palestine question, the Golan, and south Lebanon. All these resolutions have emphasized the need to respect international legitimacy, to employ one standard rather than double standards, and to deal with these resolutions seriously in accordance with international law and relevant Security Council resolutions.

He stressed that we are committed to the implementation of UN resolutions on all issues.

On the next meeting of Damascus Declaration states, the foreign minister expressed his belief that the next meeting for the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration signatory states would surely reach substantial results toward implementing the principles and articles of this declaration.

He added: We propose that experts and specialists from the eight countries discuss the implementation of the Damascus Declaration before their next ministerial meeting on 25 May.

The foreign minister predicted that the experts and specialists would reach a suitable formula for implementing the Damascus Declaration so that it may endorsed by the ministers at their meeting.

Qaddurah Departs for 'Emergency' APU Meeting

JN3004152092 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Damascus, 30 Apr (SANA)—'Abd-al-Qadir Qadurah, speaker of the People's Assembly and head of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU], left Damascus for Tripoli this afternoon to participate in the emergency APU session scheduled to open on Saturday [2 May].

Transportation Minister, Delegation Leave for Oman 4 May

JN0405091192 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0735 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Damascus, 4 May (SANA)—Transportation Minister Yusuf al-Ahmad left Damascus for the Sultanate of Oman this morning in reponse to an invitation from the Omani Minister of Communications Salim Bin-'Abdallah al-Ghazali. The minister is leading a delegation from the Ministry of Transportation and affiliated establishments.

During the visit, the minister will hold talks on ways to enhance relations between the two fraternal countries and promote bilateral transportation activities.

An agreement on air transportation and the regulation of air services between Syria and the Sultanate of Oman will also be signed.

The Omani ambassador in Damascus and high-ranking officials from the Ministry of Transportation were on hand to bid him farewell.

Afghanistan

Mojaddedi Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon

Declares General Amnesty

LD0105212192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1630 GMT 1 May 92

[Friday sermon by Interim President Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi at the Pol-e Kheshti Mosque in Kabul on 1 May, introduction by studio announcer—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] In the name of great Almighty God. Dear listeners, praise be to God that this Friday witnessed a special glory. Kabul and other provinces echoed the voice of righteousness and Islam to the world for the realization of that for which we offered more than 1.5 million martyrs and for which we waited for more than 13 years. The sermon of juma prayers at Pol-e Kheshti Mosque was delivered by mojahed brother Esteemed Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the jehad council and the embodiment of the Islamic Government of Afghanistan. Prior to his speech [words indistinct] mojahed brother Mohammad Musa Tawana, president of the Islamic University of Jam'iyat-e Eslami and member of the jehad council, delivered a speech. The prayers were attended by esteemed and heroic brother Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, minister of defense of the Islamic Government, and a large number of members of the jehad council. Juma prayers at Shah-e Doshamshira was led by mojahed brother Yaser, member of the jehad council. We present to a report to you on the prayers.

In the name of great and almighty God; thanks to God, at the first Juma prayers after the establishment of the Islamic Government in Kabul, Esteemed Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the jehad council and the embodiment of the Islamic Government, delivered a sermon at Pol-e Kheshti, which we now present to you dear listeners.

[Mojaddedi] [passage omitted] Esteemed audience, dear brothers, I will briefly convey some points. God, great is his glory, abides by his promise. When we started the jehad, about 20 years ago, I spoke here every Thursday, you may remember, and I told you brothers and warned you that our country was advancing to death. They wanted to take away our faith and belief—which are the greatest pleasures bestowed by God, pleasures that have no alternative—to rear our children as infidels. Muslims be vigilant. Muslims understand that the day of judgment is right, retribution of God is right. He is going to call us to account. I told this to the government, to the king, to the prime minister, to generals, to youths, to clergy, to ulema, to all of them. A small number listened a little, but the majority did not listen and paid no attention. God the great sent down a catastrophe. [last sentence in Arabic then translated into Dari]

God does not change his treatment of a nation unless a change occurs to the ego of creatures and individuals. Egos became filthy, beliefs became vile. God sent down a catastrophe and the worst nation of the world, communism, dominated us. Children became orphans, women and sisters became widows, fathers lost their children, mothers sacrificed their dear ones for God. [passage omitted] There may not be a person among us, there may not be a family in dear Afghanistan which has not suffered a misery. But, praise be to God, the promise of God was true. We told you that jehad was a duty [fard]. We declared jehad in 1978, when the wretched Taraki seized power. Some people were laughing at us when I was reciting the verse I recited to you earlier, saying what is jehad? What can these poor people, having no tanks and artillery and planes, do against a superpower. We said that the real superpower is God, great is his glory.

Brothers, Muslims, God's promise was true. At the end of the verse God had promised: Help comes from God and victory is close. And tell the faithful that they should not be afraid of anyone but God. [last two sentences in Arabic] It has been proven that the real superpower is one superpower that is God, great is his glory.

Your jehad did not only free Afghanistan. It initially broke communism into pieces, broke the Russians, removed the Soviet Union from the map of the world. The Islamic Republics and the world became liberated. Why did [word indistinct] become liberated? The religious jehad [word indistinct]. That is, it was for the jehad of those martyrs. It was the cries of those orphans, mothers, and fathers who sacrificed their flesh and blood. Praise be to God! It is time brothers for...[changes thought] The time for war has ended. It is time for peace. It is time for reconciliation. It is time for forebearance. It is time for forgiveness, you are all responsible and each one of you ought to be responsible for his own followers [last phrase in Arabic, from the Hadith]. There is the Hadith of Mohammad, peace be upon him! All of you are like shepherds. Everyone has a responsibility. If each one of us can make the orphans happy and care for the widows we should [word indistinct].

The (?justice) of those hatreds that arose as a result of the interference of foreigners among us is natural and has led to discrimination. We should destroy this discrimination. Earlier, esteemed Dr. Musa Tawona, one of the scholars of Afghanistan, a mojahed and our brother [words indistinct], I tell you repeatedly that this verse from the Koran that I read to you states that God has instructed the people: Oh People! I made you people from a male and a female—Adam and Eve—and then I divided you into tribes, clans, and nations so that you would know one another, where you come from. [saying from the Hadith] From Kabul. Where do you come from? From Mazar. Where do you come from? From Qandahar, from Paktia. From such and such village. From this or that tribe. From this or that nationality. This is [word indistinct]. You should know that [word indistinct] or for your father and mother or glory will not be received by God. [words indistinct] The [word indistinct] of you all is the one who is the closest to God. Great is his glory! Today the cries of Pashto, Farsi, Tajik,

Uzbek, Shiite, and Sunni and others are being uttered by some people. These are uttered by subversive tongues, the tongues that are treacherous to their country, religion, and people. Take care that the Pashto, Farsi, Uzbek, Tajik, Shiite, and Sunni divisions do not exist among you. You are all brothers, all the Muslim nation is one. [words indistinct]

We are all from Afghanistan; we are all from an Islamic nation. Anyone who causes division will face God's punishment. Dear brothers! It is time for [word indistinct]. We have declared a general amnesty, God will guide those brothers who have deviated from the path so that they come to the right path and pass the rest of their life in the service of Islam and the Muslims. [passage omitted]

More on Friday Prayers Sermon

LD0105194392 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Today esteemed Professor Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the jehad council and president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, led the Friday prayers in the Pol-e Kheshti mosque. Esteemed Mohammad Seddiq Chakari, Dr. Seyyed Mohammad Musa Tawona, Dr. Najibollah Mojaddedi, Seyyed Nurollah Imat, members of the jehad council, and a large number of the Muslim people and residents of the city of Kabul participated. The correspondent of BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY reports that during the arrival of esteemed professor Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi into the grounds of the Pol-e Kheshti mosque he was received by the Muslim residents [words indistinct] with slogans of God is Great. At the end of the prayers esteemed professor Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi received the worshippers and spoke to them about the jehad for Islam.

He stated: Twenty years ago from the same holy ground I announced to all the people of the country that one group of individuals wanted to bring in infidels, and in reality we declared a jehad against the infidels. Today is the time for great joy and honor, so that after the establishment of an Islamic State, from this place of worship to God I declare a general amnesty.

Esteemed Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi congratulated the worshippers on the establishment of the Islamic State in our dear country, Afghanistan, and hoped for the unity and solidarity of the people in the country for the reconstruction of our beloved country and the well-being of the Muslim people of Afghanistan. After this esteemed Dr. Seyyed Mohammad Musa Tavona, member of the jehadi council spoke about the struggles for the rights of the people of Afghanistan for the establishment of an Islamic State in the country.

According to another report, esteemed Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, went to the Ashuqan wa Arifan temple after the Friday prayers and paid tribute to the [word indistinct] of the followers of Islam. The esteemed president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, speaking to those residing around the district of the Ashuqan wa Arifan temple, talked about the serious measures taken by the Islamic State for the provision and distribution of food products, tackling the problems associated with drinking water and electricity supply, and the establishment of peace and (?security) of all the Muslims in the country.

Reportage on Goverment Meetings, Declarations

Mas'ud Chairs Security Commission Meeting

LD0105172692 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] The first meeting of the Security Commission of Kabul City was held today with the recitation of a few verses from the holy Koran. It was chaired by Esteemed Engineer Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, defense minister of the Islamic State of Afghanistan and chairman of the Defense and Security Commission of Kabul City.

The commission meeting was held with the participation of members of the commission esteemed Mohammad Yaser, representative of Ettehad-e Eslami [Islamic Alliance]; esteemed Kazimi, representative of Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami [Islamic Unity Party]; esteemed Anwari, representative of Harakat-e Eslami [Islamic Movement]; esteemed General 'Abdol Rahim Wardak, representative of Mahaz-e Melli-e Eslami [Islamic National Front]; esteemed Dr. Najibollah Mojaddedi, representative of Jabha-e Nejat-e Melli Afghanistan [National Liberation Front of Afghanistan]; and esteemed Mohammad Musa, representative of Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami of Afghanistan [Islamic Revolution Movement of Afghanistan]. It took urgent security measures to ensure security in Kabul City, and specific duties were entrusted to the members of the commission.

Council Members Hold News Conference

LD0205155392 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1230 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Today a news conference was held with a number of members of the jehadi council of the Islamic State of Afghanistan on ensuring good security in Kabul city, and on supplying foodstuffs and other primary goods. The news conference was held in the prime minister's palace and was attended by members of jehadi council; al-Haj Mohammad Seddiq (?Sakari), member of the Executive Council of Jam'iyat-e Eslami; al-Haj Mowlawi Mohammad Qasim, member of the Executive Council of Mahz-e Melli [National Islamic Front]; Mowlawi 'Abdollah Fazul Bari, member of the Executive Council of Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami; al-Haj Soleyman Yari, member of the Executive Council of Nejat-e Melli [National Liberation Front]; and al-Haj 'Abdol Jabar, member of the Executive Council of Hezb-e Eslami of Mowlawi Mohammad Yunes Khales.

The members gave comprehensive information on the military situation in and around Kabul city and in other provinces of the country, on the measures which have been taken by the Islamic State of Afghanistan to ensure peace and security and to supply primary goods to the people, and on the decisions made during the meetings of the jehadi council.

Security Commission 'In Complete Control'

LD0205152892 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1130 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] A source at the Kabul Security Commission has told a BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY reporter that the Security Commission is completely in control of the situation and is engaged in serving the compatriots and [words indistinct] of rioters. The Security Commission has ensured the protection of the security of the lives and property of the people [word indistinct] that the rioters have been distanced from the city. The security forces will not permit the rioters to cause disturbances. They will help protect the lives and property of the people with a sense of readiness and [word indistinct].

Mojaddedi Chairs Jehad Council Session

LD0305094792 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 0230 GMT 3 May 92

[Text) The jehad council of Afghanistan met yesterday afternoon, chaired by Esteemed Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, jihad council chairman and deputy [momasel] of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

The meeting, which was attended by those members of the council who have come to Kabul, comprehensively discussed matters concerning the establishment of peace and security in Kabul and the establishment of security in other regions of the country, as well as the provision of food and the needs of the people. A number of measures were adopted. Esteemed Sebghatollah Mojadedi issued necessary instructions concerning the implementation of the decisions of the jehad council and specified the tasks of relevant organs concerning the speedy solution of people's problems.

Council Member Says Security Established

LD0305180192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Apr 92

[Excerpts] Esteemed Al-Haj Mohammad Sadiq Chakari, member of the jehadi council, gave a news conference today. The news conference was held with the participation of a number of Arab journalists. He replied to the questions related to the security situation in the country and the provision of foodstuffs and social services.

Esteemed Chakari said that now with the formation of the jehadi council all the key points in the city and the security posts located around the city are in the hands of the guardians of the Islamic State of Afghanistan. Security has been established in Kabul and all the provinces as a result of a joint understanding among all the formations. The gunfire which you hear is to celebrate the formation of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

In connection with the provision of foodstuffs for Kabul and social services, Chakari said that with the official recognition of the Islamic State of Afghanistan by the Islamic states and the friendly countries, assistance [words indistinct] of foodstuffs is being carried out greatly. [passage omitted]

In connection with the social services he said that the activity of Melli Bus [state-run city transportation] and private transportation have begun and are at the service of the citizens. All the state offices and establishments are open and people are carrying out their daily duties normally.

Mojaddedi Announces 'Grand Coalition'

LD0405101892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] According to a report from Afghanistan, the Afghan mojahedin are to establish a grand coalition for unity. Interim government leader Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, having announced the above, said: Talks on establishing this coalition are currently in progess. He also confirmed plans to implement a new security project for Kabul.

Former Chief Justice Shadan Assassinated

BK0305144092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1351 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Kabul, May 3 (AFP)—Afghan Chief Justice 'Abdol Karim Shahdan has been assassinated and his body found in the northern part of Kabul, reliable diplomatic sources said Sunday.

Shahdan's body was found dumped in a suburb Saturday, his wife reportedly confirmed to United Nations sources.

The diplomatic sources, who requested anonymity, said the manner of Shahdan's slaying was not clear, but added it was clear "he did not die quickly."

Before being appointed Supreme Court Chief Justice, Shahdan served as chief judge of special courts of the Interior Ministry.

No other details, including the possible identity of his killers, were available.

Government Condemns Killing

LD0305150392 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1430 GMT 3 May 92

[Statement by the Islamic State of Afghanistan on 3 May—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

As our dear compatriots are aware, the Islamic State of Afghanistan has declared a general amnesty. Unfortunately, despite this, it seems that the hands of a number of rioters and motivated groups and elements are at work, resorting to assassination and the abduction of a number of people.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan strongly condemns these actions. It has firmly instructed all security branches in the country to capture the perpetrators of these crimes and hand them over to the judicial branch so they can be punished for their actions in accordance with Islamic shari'ah. We ask all our compatriots to cooperate with the Islamic state in order to capture and punish the perpetrators of these crimes.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan is the guarantor of life, property and honor of all the dear compatriots and will not spare any effort to prevent such actions.

Foreign Minister Post Vacant; Shams Named Deputy

LD0305095692 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Kabul, May 3, IRNA—Head of the interim government of Afghanistan Sebghatollah Mojaddedi Sunday appointed Jalil Shams as deputy foreign minister.

A source at Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry said that some had considered Shams as the likely candidate for the post of foreign minister. The post is still vacant.

Jalil Shams was in Switzerland for years and returned to Kabul last week.

The source added that a number of the Peshawar-based mojahedin leaders including Borhanoddin Rabbani and Yunes Khales would possibly arrive here today.

Haqqani Proposed To Lead Kabul Security Body

NC0205175192 Paris AFP in English 1705 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Kabul, May 2 (AFP)—A council of mojahedin commanders led by Pashtun warrior Jalaloddin Haqqani will take charge of Kabul's security, a member of the embattled Afghan capital's administrative council said Saturday.

"We are very sure that after the arrival of Haqqani, all commanders of different groups will come to secure the safety of Kabul," Mohammad Anwar said here.

The council member said he was certain Haqqani's taking charge would also solve "ethnic and tribal problems" which have pitted one mojahedin group against another along Pashtun/non-Pashtun lines in the battle for Kabul.

Anwar is a member of the Pashtun community and a colleague of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, the commander of the Jam'iyat-e Eslami resistance faction bitterly opposed to the Hezb-e Eslami of Golboddin Hekmatyar.

Hekmatyar's faction and Mas'ud's troops have been involved in bitter fighting for Kabul's control since last Saturday, with the Jam'iyat prevailing.

The attempt to draft Haqqani, one of Afghanistan's better-known guerrilla commanders, into taking charge of Kabul's security seems to be a gesture of reassurance towards the Pashtuns that their interests are not being neglected.

Anwar, a member of a six-man city security commission headed by Mas'ud, blamed ethnic and regional divisions on the "divide-and-govern" policy followed by the former Soviet-installed government of ousted Afghan President Najibollah.

"We are sure these divisions can be solved," he said.

Haqqani is believed to be in Gardeyz, the southern gateway to Kabul, and has not arrived here yet, diplomatic sources said.

Anwar refused to rule out a role for Hekmatyar in the interim administration of Afghanistan, where a council led by moderate rebel leader Sebghatollah Mojaddedi took power from the remnants of Najibollah's regime.

"A big number of forces of Hekmatyar took part in the jehad (holy war) against the regime, and we would like him to participate with us," Anwar said.

It was not immediately clear if the proposed council of mojahedin commanders would replace Mas'ud's city security commission.

Meanwhile, sources close to the mojahedin in Kabul said Mas'ud held a meeting of the commission Saturday to discuss the formation of a 1,600-man paramilitary force to police Kabul.

The force is expected to be led by 'Abdol Haq, mojahedin commander in the Kabul provincial region, the sources said.

Security in Kabul, which witnessed widespread looting during the confusion following the takeover of Kabul by mojahedin, has been listed as the top priority of the interim government.

The local police, called the Sarandoy, are suspected to have been widely infiltrated by Hekmatyar's men.

Benon Sevan Leaves Islamabad for Kabul

BK0305071492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Islamabad, May 3 (AFP)—The United Nations's special envoy for Afghanistan, Benon Sevan, left here Sunday for Kabul to size up the political and humanitarian situation there, Pakistani sources said. It will be his first trip to the Afghan capital since it fell to mojahedin forces on April 25.

For the past 10 days he has been in Islamabad and Tehran.

Sevan has said that he is prepared to act as mediator between rival Afghan factions if Afghans so wish.

According to diplomatic sources, Sevan has been annoyed by the silence of Afghan interim President Sebgatollah Mojaddedi on the U.N.'s political role in Afghanistan.

Mojaddedi took over Tuesday as head of an interim council in Kabul, backed by the troops of mojahedin commander Ahmad Shah Mas'ud and his allies.

Leaders of Jehad Forces Expected in Kabul

LD0305104592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 3 May 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] According to reports from our Kabul correspondents, Borhanoddin Rabbani, Yunes Khales, and Seyyef, leaders of the Afghan jehad forces, are due to arrive in Kabul today.

Another piece of news from Afghanistan cites a Pakistani press report of new clashes between the mojahedin coalition forces and Hekmatyar forces south of Kabul yesterday. The report says these clashes were assessed in a meeting between interim council chairman Mojaddedi and Ahamd Shah Mas'ud, and in the meeting of the six-member Kabul Security Commission.

Three Groups Form Alliance, Appoint Leader

LD0305103892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Three branches of Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami-e Afghanistan have merged and formed a single party. Mowlawi Nasrollah Mansur, the deputy of the new party, which has also been named Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami-e Afghanistan, announced that the party is taking a cautious stand with regards to the leadership council and the interim government which is to be set up in two months. He said that all jehad forces, comprising all the parties of Hezb-e Vahdat-e Eslami, [Hezbe-e] Harakat-e Eslami, the Cause of Islamic Unity, and [Hezb-e] Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami, must be given a fair share in the leadership council and the interim government.

On the reasons for this alliance, he said: The decision to form a new union was adopted in view of the fact that the current sensitive situation has created a great need for unity among mojahed parties, in particular the Afghan ulema and clerics. He expressed the hope that the new union would serve to further strengthen Islamic brotherhood and friendship among all ranks of the Afghan nation.

The new union will be led by Mowlawi Mohammad Nabi-Mohammadi, who was previously the leader of one of the branches of Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami-e Afghanistan.

Reportage on Hekmatyar, Hezb-e Eslami Forces

Forces Instructed To Leave City

LD0105161292 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom to Afghanistan in Pashto 1400 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] The military command of Hezb-e Eslami of Afghanistan [Islamic Party of Afghanistan] in a statement issued on 10 Sawr [30 April] says that Hezb-e Eslami of Afghanistan has instructed all its mojahedin in Kabul city to leave the positions which are under their control inside the city, and to take up positions in the regions around the city. The statement adds that the [Uzbek] militia forces have (?directed) all their guns and heavy weapons toward the city and the citizens of Kabul city, and are firing over the people's positions and homes, targeting the homes with gunfire. Therefore, it has been added in the statement that these militias have entered the city to loot the homes and properties of the defenseless people of the city and violate the honor and dignity of the people.

The Hezb-e Eslami of Afghanistan instructs all its mojahedin not to take military action in the residential areas and populated sections; and to take military positions around Kabul city, so that the infamous militias leave Kabul city and the people of Kabul become free from their despotism.

Similarly, it has been added in the statement that Hezb-e Eslami of Afghanistan has resorted to this action because the infamous militias in the name the defending Kabul city, have resorted to looting and violate the people's honor. The statement says if these infamous militias stay in Kabul city, in fact Kabul is not liberated and Kabul is facing [word indistinct] and fear. These looter militias should leave the city and let our brave people to continue their honorable life.

Hezb-e Eslami-Government Tension

BK0305162092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] In Afghanistan, Hezb-e Eslami leader, Mr. Golboddin Hekmatyar, has threatened to attack Kabul again unless the interim council dissociates itself from the

Uzbek militia and its commander, General Rashid Dostam. Talking to newspersons in Kabul today, Mr. Hekmatyar said he would not lift the blockade of the Peshawar-Kabul Highway till the interim council agrees to his demand. He said he will not join the interim council that has nominated his deputy, Ostad Farid, for the prime minister's post.

Meanwhile, the Hezb-e Eslami troops fired three rockets today in which one person was killed and six others were injured in Kabul. The Afghan authorities have expressed concern at Hekmatyar's move to block (?access). Armored columns have been positioned on the Jalalabad Highway.

A report says the former chief justice, Mr. Karim Shahdan, has been found dead in the west of the capital city. According to family sources, his body was found riddled with bullets today. The sources say he was kidnapped by three unidentified gunmen last night from his residence. The former civil aviation minister, Mr. (Kaki), has also been kidnapped. His whereabouts are still not known.

Mojahedin Asked to Restore Electricity

BK0305143892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1407 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Islamabad, May 3 (AFP)—Fundamentalist mojahedin leader Golboddin Hekmatyar made an inspection visit Sunday to Sarowbi, site of the hydroelectric plant that supplies power to Kabul, his Hezb-e Eslami faction said.

The faction's Afghan News Agency (ANA) said Hekmatyar, who has threatened to launch a final attack on Kabul unless militia withdraw from the city, "asked the mojahedin...to immediately restore electricity to Kabul city and repair all the lines that were damaged during fighting." He was seen Saturday about 55 kilometers (35 miles) southeast of Kabul.

Hekmatyar, principal opponent of the interim administration in Kabul, said his artillery was within range of the city.

In Sarowbi, 60 km (38 miles) east of Kabul, he "called on the technical staff of the Sarowbi Dam and employees of the electricity-generating installations to immediately resume their duties and ensure (the) smooth and permanent supply of electricity to Kabul City," ANA said.

Electricity was starting to resume in Kabul as of Friday.

The Afghan Islamic Press, which is close to a dissident Hezb faction led by Yunes Khales, was unable to confirm reports of Hekmatyar's visit to Sarowbi.

But it reported Saturday that Hekmatyar's forces had significantly increased in the region and in Jalalabad, which is farther east.

Commander Accuses Rival of Attacks

BK0105140192 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 1 May 92 p 12

[Text] Peshawar—A Hezb-e-Eslami (Hekmatyar) commander 'Abdur Rahman has accused rival commander Mowlawi Rasul Akhundzada of waging war against fellow mojahedin in Helmand Province of Afghanistan.

In a statement, he said Harakat Enqelabi Eslami commander Akhundzada has for the past two weeks been attacking mojahedin bases belonging to Hezb-e Eslami's two factions as well as those of Jam'iyat-e Eslami and Ettehad-e Eslami in the Girishk and Lashkargah districts of Helmand.

He claimed these two garrisons were captured on April 15 as 14,000 soldiers surrendered along with 200 tanks and a huge quantity of heavy weapons. He claimed 980 men belonging to Akhundzada were captured and 70 killed in two unsuccessful attacks launched by him to seize the two districts from the joint control of rival mojahedin commanders.

'Abdur Rahman urged Harakat chief Mowlawi Nabi Mohammadi to restrain Rasul Akhundzada from acts of adventurism.

Hezb Not Fighting Jam'iyat-e Eslami

LD0305160792 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 1400 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Esteemed (Ostad Hibiburahman Seyyed), head of the Afghan News Agency, has rejected the hostile propaganda and reports by the enemies who allege that the Hezb-e Eslami of Afghanistan and Jam'iyat-e Eslami are involved in clashes among themselves. He said: The mojahedin of Hezb-e Eslami of Afghanistan are engaged in fighting with the Gelam Jam Militias [reference to Dostam militias] and not with the Jam'iyat mojahedin. It is incorrect that Hezb-e is involved in clashes with Jam'iyat-e Eslami.

Ostad Seyyed added that the sacred jehad of Hezb-e Eslam of Afghanistan against the infidel regime and its remnants is not new. It took up arms 13 years ago in order to eleminate the regime and will continue its jehad until it eliminates the last remnant in Afghanistan.

Delegation To Kabul Named

NC0305202392 Paris AFP in English 1934 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, May 3 (AFP)—The Hezb-e Eslami of Golboddin Hekmatyar nominated Sunday five representatives for the ruling Afghan interim council, a party announcement carried by the AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) said.

ANA named the five as Ostad 'Ali Ansari and Jan Mohammad Hamkar, both members of the Hezb executive committee, commanders Khalid Faruqi and Mowlana Abadi and Ghairat Bahir, a senior party member.

The announcement said the nominees would leave for Kabul with Rasul Seyyaf, chief of the mojahedin Ettehad-e Eslami faction.

It did not say whether the five would in fact sit on the council.

ANA said Seyyaf was readying to go to Kabul by road with members of his party and a delegation from other mojahedin factions. Two other Hezb members, 'Abdol Qadir Karyab and Mir Mohammad Alam, would accompany Sayyaf on what the party called a "peace mission".

The Hezb statement said Seyyaf would review the situation in Kabul from a site near the city "instead of moving in straight away", in view of a report he had received from his commander Sher Alam.

The statement said Sher Alam, who had been in Kabul attending a security committee of the new administration, returned to Peshawar "disheartened" over the situation in the capital.

The Hezb delegation accompanying Seyyaf would "apply political pressure" for the expulsion of former government militia forces from Kabul and the "transfer of all power to the mojahedin council" headed by Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, the statement said.

The announcement of nomination to the council appears to be a conciliatory gesture aimed at opening direct talks with the interim government headed by Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, observers said.

The 50-member council was set up under an April 24 mojahedin accord in Pakistan, which was endorsed by the Hezb.

The Hezb earlier also nominated one of its commanders, Ostad Farid, for the post of prime minister in the interim government under the same accord.

Congratulations, Support for New Afghan Government

Former Minister Congratulates Mojaddedi

LD0305005392 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] A message of congratulations addressed to esteemed Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the council of mojahedin and chairman of Afghanistan's interim jehadi council, has arrived from Moscow to Kabul from Seyyed Mohammad Golabzoy [former interior minister and former ambassador to Moscow] with the following text:

Esteemed Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, I want to convey to you my best congratulations on the occasion of the victory of the Islamic revolution and on the occasion of your appointment as the head of the state and as well as on your declaration of a general amnesty.

Congratulations From Abroad Received

LD0105143692 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1330 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] In line with the arrival of the messages of congratulation on the occasion of the formation of the Islamic State of Afghanistan and appointment of Esteemed Professor Hazarat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the jehadi council and president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, today messages of congratulation arrived in Kabul from Islamabad, Delhi, Ankara, London, Egypt, Dushanbe, Addis Ababa, Libya, Warsaw, Paris, Turkey, Vietnam, Yugolsavia, Ulaanbaatar, Washington, Dhaka, the representation of the Islamic State of Afghanistan and the Consulate of the Islamic State of Afghanistan in Karachi.

In the messages the election of the Esteemed Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the jehadi council and president of the Islamic State of Afganistan, has been congratulated and the victory has been wished from Almighty God for the Islamic State of Afghanistan to ensure peace and tranquility and to serve the [word indistinct] and suffering people of Afghanistan.

Mojaddedi Thanks Pakistan for Support

LD0205194692 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 May 92

["Message" from Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the jehadi council and the embodiment of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, to Ghulam Ishaq Khan, president of Pakistan]

[Text] Your Excellency Gholam Ishaq Khan, president of Pakistan:

Your Excellency President, I would like to express gratitude for your message of congratulations on my election as president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan. Your friendly, fraternal feeling expressed to me and to all members of the jehadi council is a cause of my pleasure. In response I present to Your Excellency my gratitude. I am confident that broad and selfless support of the people and Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan has played a valuable role in success of the noble jehad of Afghans. Afghan mojahedin and freedom-loving people of Afghanistan will never forget the fraternal support and warm hospitality given to us at a difficult time and during our long stay in your great country, Pakistan, and therefore we express many gratitudes.

I am confident that with help of Almighty God and with broad support of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and with the assistance of friendly Islamic countries and the international community, we will succeed in the observance of cease-fire, the execution of general amnesty, the protection of all citizens' lives and property and the

ensuring of lasting peace, and succeed in the great task of the reconstruction and revival of the country. Afghanistan and Pakistan have had relations of friendship and cooperation during the course of history. Those relations, based on Islamic fraternity, confidence and common relations, which has passed the test of time, are an important factor for peace and stability in our region. We proceed, for joint work with you, for the further consolidation and multitude of those relations.

Your Excellency, please accept our good wishes for your health and the prosperity and progress of the Muslim people of Pakistan.

[Signed] Prof. Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the jehadi council of Afghanistan and the embodiment of the Islamic State

Mojaddedi Sends Thanks to Turkey's Ozal

LD0305012392 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Esteemed Professor Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the jehad council and the embodiment of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, sent a message of gratitude to Turgut Ozal, president of the Republic of Turkey, with the following text:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful:

Your excellency, brother Turgut Ozal, president of the Republic of Turkey,

Dear brother: With pleasure, as president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, I received your message on the victory of the jehad of the Muslim people of Afghanistan. I would hereby like to express the deep gratitude of the people and state of Afghanistan and that of myself to yourself and the fraternal people of Turkey for their support of the righteous cause of the Muslim people of Afghanistan. While we want further expansion of the existing traditional and historic relations between the fraternal people of the two countries, I am fully confident that the fraternal people of Turkey will help the oppressed Muslim people of our country to reconstruct Afghanistan. Taking the opportunity, I ask God to give you good health, dear brother, along with the prosperity of the fraternal people of Turkey. And success comes from God.

[Signed] Prof. Hazrat Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the

Islamic State of Afghanistan.

Dostam To Cooperate; Congratulates Mojaddedi

LD0305164592 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Abdol Rashid Dostam has sent a message of congratulations to Esteemed Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, chairman of the jehadi council and embodiment [momasel] of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

The message states: Esteemed excellency, Professor Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi. I congratulate you from the bottom of my heart on your appointment to the post of chairman of the jehadi council and embodiment of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, and on the formation of an Islamic State.

I pray to Almighty God for your further success in the maintenance of peace and advancement of the homeland. My colleagues and I express our total cooperation toward implementing the high aspirations of the Islamic State and the establishment of peace and stability in the country, and will not spare any honest efforts on this Islamic path.

Mojaddedi Receives Dignitaries, Elders

LD0305183492 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 May 92

[Excerpts] In the presidential headquarters this afternoon esteemed Professor Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, head of the jehad council and head of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, received commanders of the Harakat-e Eslami-e Afghanistan and dignitaries, elders, ulema, and clergy of Kabul city. [passage omitted]

During the meeting, esteemeded Professor Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi spoke on the situation in the country and expressed appreciation for the cooperation and courage of the Muslim people during the years of jehad for the freedom of the Muslim people of our beloved country. [passage omitted]

Esteemed Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi specified the great and Islamic tasks and responsibilities of jehad commanders in strengthening peace and security in the country, and called on all jehad commanders and the Muslim nation of Afghanistan not to spare any effort in further strengthening peace and security, the prosperity of the country, and the provision of essential goods to overcome people's problems.

At the end of the meeting, participants prayed for the nation's tranquillity and prosperity and the progress and development of the country.

Jalaloddin Haqqani Offers Obedience

LD0205172492 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] A message of congratulations has arrived addressed to esteemed Professor Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, from Al-Haj Jalaloddin Haqqani [Hezb-e Eslami] with the following text:

His Excellency Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, may God's peace and blessing be upon you. Following the fall of the

Communist and atheist regime, and on the formation of an Islamic system under the leadership of your excellency, I convey my congratulations and that of the holy ulema, commanders, and leaders of the tribes from the botton of my heart. I pray to Almighty God for the establishment of an Islamic system in Afghanistan, and a very speedy peace in the country.

Your excellency, a few days after conquering Gardeyz, I was engaged in organizing order in the city. Now, by taking preparation [ezarat], I am ready to meet you and to continue my efforts, within the framework of obeying your instructions and orders, to the limit of my capacity, my ability, and my power. Therefore, the delegation which brings this message of greeting to you will deliver your instructions and orders to me.

[Signed] Al-Haji Mowlawi Jalaloddin Haqqani.

Price Commission Fixes Cost of Foodstuffs

LD0305141192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1030 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Announcement by Kabul municipality: According to a decision of the Price Control Commission of Kabul municipality, the price of 1 kg of mutton is fixed at 1,700 afghanis and beef at 1,400 afghanis. Violators will be dealt with according to the Islamic shari'a.

Also according to a decision by the Price Control Commission of the Kabul municipality, the price of a 200 g loaf of bread in the free market is fixed at 30 afghanis and the price of a 190 g loaf from state shops is 10 afghanis.

Muslim Sisters Issue Statement of Reassurance

LD0405084992 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 0555 GMT 4 May 92

[Message from the "Muslim Sisters Organization of Afghanistan"—read by announcer]

[Text] Muslim and faithful sisters of Kabul city and other provinces of the country:

The Muslim Sisters Organization of Afghanistan [Tanzim-e Khwaharan-e Mosolman-e Afghanistan] assures all sisters of Afghanistan that their lives and property are protected against every sort of violation. Continue your lives with complete confidence and help your mojahed brothers in coordinating the unity of the country. Following the high rules of Islam, try to be ready to welcome the victories of your mojahed and heroic brothers and accomplish your Islamic mission.

[Signed] Central Administration of the Muslim Sisters Organization of Afghanistan.

Reportage on Further Fighting Between Mojahedin

Government Inflicts Heavy Losses on Hekmatyar

BK0305141192 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST in English 3 May 92 p 1

[Text] Kabul—There are reports of some fresh clashes between the forces of the Kabul administration and of Hekmatyar in the south-eastern part of Kabul.

The sources in Kabul said that the government forces launched offensive on Hekmatyar forces in Baghrami region on Saturday.

Details of the losses are awaited but the sources said that the clashes were of serious nature.

The issue of clashes came under discussions at a meeting here when the acting president Prof. Sebghatollah Mojaddedi and Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Mas'ud were informed about the latest clashes at Baghrami.

The six-member security council, which meets here almost every day, also discussed the situation at Baghrami.

The famous commander of Kabul, 'Abdol Haq, told a news conference at a five star hotel here on Saturday that he had summoned Gen. Aloomi to explain the reasons as to what made him send his troops to Baghrami. He said that Gen. Aloomi explained the background of deploying the troops at Baghrami in the meeting of the council. However, Commander Haq did not give details of the discussions on the issue that took place in the meeting of the council.

According to some sources Haq also tried to discuss the issue with some other Afghan army generals in Kabul but they reportedly told him that they were not supposed to discuss the issue with him as they were under the command of Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Mas'ud.

Meanwhile, the official sources said that the government forces had inflicted heavy losses on Hekmatyar's forces at the Baghrami district.

Meanwhile, Commander 'Abdol Haq on Saturday joined Hekmatyar in his demand that the Soviet trained militia Gelam Jam should be driven out of Kabul.

Addressing a news conference at the Hotel Intercontinental here 'Abdol Haq said that there were millions of complaints against the militia of Dostam. He said that this militia was responsible for looting and harassing the people in Kabul. He admitted the fact that some of the Afghan mojahedin were also involved in such crimes against civilian people.

'Abdol Haq also raised eye brows over the coalition between Mojaddedi's administration with the Afghan army generals who belong to the communist party Parcham.

Mojaddedi's administration has been facing severe pressure from people of different walks of life over the presence of the Soviet- trained militia commonly known as Gelam Jam in Kabul.

The immediate reason for such an opposition is that this militia had been fighting for the Kabul communist regimes in the past and were responsible for the killing of several Afghan mojahedin.

The Gelam Jam forces were brought from the north of the Afghanistan to fight the Hekmatyar forces in Kabul.

Tehran Reports Clashes in Southern Kabul

LD0405103792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 4 May 92

[Unidentified correspondent report by telephone from Kabul]

[Excerpt] Clashes between the Afghan interim Islamic government's forces and those of Golboddin Hekmatyar have been going on in Kabul's southern quarter since this morning. During these clashes the two sides have been attacking each other's positions and deploying heavy weapons and artillery. Jet fighters belonging to the military forces of the Afghan interim government have shelled positions occupied by Hekmatyar's forces. [passage omitted]

Rockets Land Near Airport, Kabul

BK0405104892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1029 GMT 4 May 92

[TEXT] KABUL, May 4 (AFP)—Several dozen rockets fell Monday around Kabul airport and the southern part of the city, witnesses said.

The firing, the first rocket barrage since last week when mojahedin from Golboddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami faction fired some 20 rockets at the airport, began at first light and continued in salvos at long intervals, they said.

Airport traffic was not affected.

On Sunday Hekmatyar warned that his forces, stationed to the south of the city, would renew their attacks on Kabul if the Uzbek militia stationed in the capital did not withdraw within three days.

The militia are allied to the Jam'iyat-e Eslami, which clashed with Hekmatyar's forces for control of Kabul following the fall of the communist government last month and is the mainstay of the new interim government that assumed power last Tuesday.

Iranian Airplanes Bring Aid to Kabul

LD0305161592 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1430 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] In line with the assistance from the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Islamic State of Afghanistan, today two aircraft carrying (?10) tonnes of medicine and 30 tonnes of foodstuff arrived at Kabul.

At Kabul International Airport the goods were handed over to the relevant officials of the Islamic State of Afghanistan by Mohammad Ibrahim Taheryan, charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which were accepted with appreciation.

Pakistan's Food Aid Convoy Arrives in Kabul

LD0305122492 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1130 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] In line with the arrival of the donated aid from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the people of Afghanistan today, more than 700 tonnes of food arrived to Kabul on 80 trucks via Torkham. The food includes wheat, ghee and sugar which have been delivered to the Ministry of Light Industry and Foodstuffs.

General Mohammad Yaya Nowruz, advisor to the post of the presidency of the jehad council, told BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that the Islamic Republic of Pakistan has contributed 50,000 tonnes of wheat to the people of Afghanistan in addition to 250 million rupees in aid. The process of its delivery is continuing. The aid will be distributed to the Kabul citizens and to our other compatriots in the country's provinces.

Iran

Khamene'i Sends Afghanistan Congratulatory Message

LD0205181492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] In the wake of the glorious victory of the Muslim Afghan nation and that country's liberation from the claws of foreigners and those who idolize foreigners, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, guardian of the cause of the Muslim people of the world, has sent a message congratulating the Muslim Afghan nation on this victory. The text of the message is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

When comes the help of God, and victory, and thou dost see; the people enter God's religion in crowds; celebrate the praises of thy Lord, and pray for his forgiveness for he is oft-returning in grace and mercy. [Koranic verse; in Arabic]

With a heart imbued with God's praise and adulation, and with eternal hope in the divine blessing and grace, I extend my sincere congratulations and felicitations on the glorious victory of the brave and selfless Muslim Afghan nation, to that entire nation, in particular to

those who risked their lives or the lives of their dear ones in the course of this continous jehad on the arenas of a relentless battle against the enemy aggressors, while enduring the ineffable afflictions of that prolonged period, and to the honorable families of the illustrious martyrs of that bloody jehad. I likewise extend my felicitations to the lofty Iranian nation which stood by that brother country throughout the Afghan struggles, sharing their sorrows and afflictions, and welcoming them to the Islamic homeland with open arms; to the great Islamic ummah who have felt the suffering of its blood-drenched member; on the liberation of the Afghan country and nation from the claws of foreigners and those who idolize foreigners. I send my salutations to the immaculate soul of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, sanctified be his soul, who anticipated the advent of such a day, and awaited it to the end of his noble life.

There is no doubt that Afghan history has now entered a new period, with the way paved for the total liberation of that country and nation from the harrowing impacts of the past. Now the Afghan nation, in particular the country's active and resistant elements and its political officials, are at the threshold of a difficult and momentous path which they can only complete successfully by placing their trust in God Almighty and resorting to divine laws, as well as relying on the people and employing the entire national potential and capability. They must also remain vigilant toward the enemies' conspiracies and infiltrations. God willing, they will attain the lofty aspirations which are the perpetuation of a blessed Islamic life, and financial and spiritual growth and progress.

Under such conditions, which obligate everyone to sincerely fulfill their divine responsibility in respect of realizing this great aim, I advise the following points to all Afghan brothers and sisters, in particular those who had the good fortune of accepting the great responsibilities on the path of the Afghan nation.

1. The jehad of the Afghan nation and their endurance of hardship throughout the period of resistance was for the sake of Islam. No other factor could have made this faithful nation so arduous and resistant in the face of the pressures they were subjected to by the Communist regime, which was the puppet of the former eastern superpower. The result today is the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan as the only response to the prolonged jehad of the Afghan nation. All the necessary measures must be stipulated in the future government and consitution, to implement God's decree and Islamic law.

2. The Afghan nation, which is made up of various ethnic and religious groups, was able to achieve victory through everyone's participation and cooperation. Now, in order that it may successfully tread the path of independence and reconstruction and achieve its aims, unity of expression and cooperation between the various ethnic and religious groups is a fundamental precondition. That unity must revolve around the axis of Islam and nothing else.

All the ethnic and religious groups must heed this divine call: And hold fast, all together by the rope, which God (stretches out for you) and be not divided [Koranic verse], and strengthen their unity more than ever before.

There are hidden hands which want to inflame ethnic and religious sentiments, and to create conflict between Muslim brothers and Afghan tribes. These hands are the enemies of Islam and the enemies of Afghanistan. They must be cut off by the vigilance of the people and officials, God willing.

3. You, the brave and faithful Afghan nation, have felt the bitter taste of foreign influence and interference in your country, and you have suffered the resulting grievous harm. Now the world devourers and arrogant powers wish to take advantage of the situation, reap benefits for themselves, and impose their influence and hegemony over you. Everyone, especially the honorable officials and the leaders of the various ethnic and religious groups, must pay the greatest possible attention in order to prevent the penetration of the enemies of Islam and the agents of arrogance into the new system in the country. You should not allow the place of the routed eastern superpower and its agents to be taken today, God forbid, by the U.S. superpower and its agents, allowing it to gain hegemony over the destiny of your country and your oppressed nation, and wasting the blood shed by martyrs on the path of independence.

The honorable speakers, writers, and other Afghan thinkers must constantly remind their nation of that great danger and prepare them for confronting arrogance's complicated ploys.

4. During these sensitive and exciting days in which, unfortunately, the dawn of victory has been clouded by factional fighting among brothers, overshadowing some pressing responsibilities, I hereby express the hope that these pressing duties will not be neglected:

a) Attending to those injured and harmed during the events in Kabul.

b) Attending to those needing help and the weary.

c) Providing security for people's lives and property, and protecting homes.

d) Establishing order and preventing clashes between armed individuals and groups.

e) Helping expert and capable forces to reestablish public services such as water, electricity, and so on.

f) Striving to reestablish normal life through general effort by everyone, including workers, farmers, traders, industrialists, and the holders of other necessary professions, in order to provide basic necessities, especially food.

5. In conclusion, I call on all governments and international organizations, such as the International Red Cross, and especially Islamic governments and the Muslim nations of the world, to help the honorable nation and officials of Afghanistan, and to facilitate life in these difficult early weeks of the independence of that Muslim nation with their donations.

I pray to exalted God for the greatness of Islam and Muslims and for their victory over enemies. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Seyyed Ali Khamene'i

12th Ordibehesht 1371 [2 May 1992]

Afghan Islamic Unity Party Thanks Khamene'i

NC0405120592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] In response to the message by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i on the victories of the Muslim nation of Afghanistan, the Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan has issued a statement expressing gratification to the guardian of the cause of the Muslim people, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, for his guiding and hope-inspiring message at the outset of the victory of the auspicious Islamic revolution of the Muslim Afghan nation and for offering the Afghan nation a bright torch to light up the long path of the struggling Afghan nation. The statement adds: Implementing his directives, which is the sincere wish of all the active political and jehad groups of Afghanistan, will be a fundamental step for removing the profound political and social problems of Afghan society.

The statement also says: The Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan, which represents a large part of Afghan society, considers the realization of the jehad's objectives and the oppressed and Muslim Afghan nation's aspirations to be contingent on pursuing the principles that have been emphasized in His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i's message. This party believes that by making Islam the pivot and by ensuring social justice, Islamic and national unity will be created and the grounds for intervention by foreigners and the minions of arrogance, who do not want Islamic rule to be established in Afghanistan, will be removed.

The Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan stresses: Despite all the overt and covert plots and ploys, effort will be made to consolidate the spirit of fraternity and create Islamic unity and fraternity. The statement calls on all the political and jehad forces to take realities and the social fabric into consideration and to respect each other's rights in order to witness the realization of the lofty objectives of the Muslim Afghan nation and the establishment of Islamic rule.

The Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan once again expresses faithfulness to the aspirations of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, and pledges allegiance to His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, guardian of the cause of the Muslim people. The Islamic Unity Party thanks him for his compassionate attention and his clear guidances and extends its gratitude for the comprehensive help by the Islamic Republic of Iran and the noble Iranian nation to the jihad of the Muslim Afghan nation and to Afghan refugees.

Yazdi Sermon Addresses Women's Rights, Afghanistan

LD0105104192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] With their massive presence the givers of prayer today conducted the glorious Friday prayers all over the country. In Tehran Ayatollah Yazdi led the Friday prayers.

In the first sermon, the acting Friday prayer leader of Tehran talked about the need to observe piety as well as about women's rights in Islam, especially their right to determine their own destiny and their right to participate in political and social affairs.

He then devoted the second sermon to topics of the day. First, he spoke about Teachers Day and Workers Day. He then referred to the anniversary of the martyrdom of the great teacher, Ostad Morteza Motahhari, and stressed the need to glorify the status of the teacher and to attend to the difficulties of that honorable class.

Mr. Yazdi paid tribute to the role of the workers in society as well as to their labors, thoughts, and expertise, describing them as the builders of society.

The Tehran acting Friday prayer leader also commented on developments in Afghanistan. He referred to 13 years of constant struggle by the Muslim mojahedin to liberate Afghanistan, and offered his congratulations to them on their success in setting up an Islamic government in that country. He asked them to keep their great victory immune from the enemy plots by maintaining their solidarity and cast away differences. He said that as in the past, the Islamic Republic of Iran will stand by the Muslim Afghan nation, wishing freedom, nonalignment, independence, and self-sufficiency for that country.

Referring to the approach of the run-off to the fourth Majles elections, Mr. Yazdi elaborated on the first round of the elections. He explained parts of the Majles Electoral Law from the legal point of view. He also referred to the expanded presence of the people during the first round of the elections and then called for respect and recognition for people's votes.

In conclusion, he said that the judicial power will investigate any misdeeds in the elections.

Further on Friday Prayer Sermons

LD0105132792 Tehran IRNA in English 1206 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA—The Islamic republic will continue to stand by the Muslim people of Afghanistan as before and will spare no efforts in assisting them, pledged head of the Judiciary Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi here Friday.

Addressing a Friday mass prayer gathering in and outside Tehran University, Ayatollah Yazdi said that Iran wants Afghanistan to be an free, independent, non-aligned Muslim country.

The susbtitute Friday prayer leader of Tehran also urged the Afghan people to roll up their sleeves and begin reconstructing their war-torn country.

Congratulating them on their victory after over a decade of struggle against the enemies, Ayatollah Yazdi called on Afghan mojahedin to appreciate the God-given blessing and try to preserve it. "The important thing is to preserve what you have attained now," he stressed.

He also urged them to patch up their differences and avoid taking biased ethnical, racial, linguistic and religious policies. "You should get united in the face of ongoing enemy plots," he warned them.

Elsewhere in his sermons, Ayatollah Yazdi called for massive turn-out of the people in the second round of the nationwide parliamentary elections [words indistinct].

He brushed aside as "unjust" claims by some disqualified candidates that there had been no freedom during the first round of the elections. "It is unfair of someone to tell the people in defiance of all evidences that 'if there had been freedom' people would have voted for other candidates."

The Judiciary chief confirmed that there were some cases of poll riggings and that he has ordered immediate investigation into those cases.

Referring to the "blasphemous" magazine 'FARAD', Ayatollah Yazdi said a jury would soon be introduced to hear the case. "The concession of the magazine has been nullified and its concessionaire handed over to judicial officials."

FARAD In its latest issue printed a cartoon insulting the late founder of the Islamic republic Imam Khomeyni, prompting nation-wide outcry which led to the closure of its office.

Tehran Reports on Developments in Afghanistan

Government Must Appoint Cabinet Soon

LD0205221992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1830 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Under the conditions when the Afghan capital of Kabul is gradually returning to normal, and the interim mojahedin government is gaining international recognition, it is reported that the Hezb-e Eslami forces of Mr. Hekmatyar have taken position in the mountains around Kabul and there is not yet any sign of their joining the current course of events.

Mr. Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, head of the 51-member council has expressed hope that all the jehad-oriented forces will assist in the maintenance of peace and tranquility in order to pave the way for the removal of troops from Kabul and recognition of an urban police force. While addressing the friday prayers congregation in Kabul yesterday, he pledged to the Afghan nation that the current problems would be resolved, food shortages may (?lead to) adoption of certain measures and the damaged water and power supplies would be put into operation soon. Of course, it is evident that the security of Kabul and other cities is of special importance, but the question being mooted is how can the security of Kabul be maintained when the Hekmatyar group continues to rocket the capital from the adjacent mountains and the militia affiliated to General Dostam lacks military discipline.

Apparently the entry of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud into Kabul has somewhat helped in maintaining tranquility but his forces in the face of a mighty attack by the Hezb-e Eslami guerillas, have no option but to guard the city entry point. The promise made by Mr. Mojaddedi on removing the Mojahedin's military forces from the city and reorganizing an urban police force in the capital is construed to be important in the same connection.

Moreover, Mr. Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami has made any negotiations and likely agreement with the interm government, subject to the withdrawal of General Dostam's military men [words indistinct] in itself (?point of the urgency) for the reorganization of an urban police force. With the lapse of time and clarification of the fact that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia which have so far extended financial and military support for Hekmatyar are backing the interim government of Mr. Mojaddedi, the leaders of the Hezb-e Eslami may have realized that under the present changing conditions, any conflict with the aspirations of the majority of Afghan Muslims will lead to risk of political isolation. This is of special significance because the head of the interim government, in a compromising tone, has called Mr. Hekmatyar his brother, and [word indistinct] an urgent and peaceful settlement of their differences.

According to many experts, the interim Mojahedin government is capable of overcoming any opposition, though such an important goal may not be attainable so soon.

Another major problem of the interim government relates to the total breakdown of the administrative system. The employees of the Kabul government still find their occupational position to be shaky, and the interim government on account of the speedy events has not named any substitute personnel. The interim government must, prior to everything else, name ministers to run the administration, so that

the country's administrative systems be capable of performing its responsibilities. Apparently, such a move hinges on the removal of rift at more general level that have already created a problem for the interim government in naming the ministers.

It is in this very context that Mr. Mojaddedi has sought help from all Afghan forces urging them to think of the future of the country under the new conditions and put the past into oblivion. But it is not evident as to whether the rift can really be settled in a peaceful atmosphere as expected by the head of the interim government, but it is hoped that all groups while duly discerning the current sensitive conditions, will pave the way for resolving the deep-rooted problems of the Afghan community while avoiding clashes and hostility and making use of peaceful methods.

Daily Urges Power-Sharing

LD0205093492 Tehran IRNA in English 0540 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA—The English daily 'TEHRAN TIMES' Saturday wrote that all groups who fought against Soviet occupying forces must "share power equitably." "Iran still emphasized on a united, Islamic and non-aligned Afghanistan and those who are still thinking in terms of Pashtu or Tajik or Sunni or Shiite are making a historical blunder," said the editorial.

"Those who really want a peaceful and prosperous Afghanistan should take all groups into consideration and make provision to share power equitably, making possible the reconstruction of the country. The best hope for a prosperous Afghanistan can come only from a united Afghanistan and not one based on particular group or faction."

All Afghan mojahedin groups who fought and expelled the Soviet forces and overthrew the Soviet-installed regime have made sacrifices during the 14 years of resistance. The contribution of the mojahedin groups must not be overlooked or ingored.

The daily noted that ever since the start of the struggle of the Afghan people the Islamic Republic of Iran has called for formation of an Islamic and independent Afghanistan and protecton of the country's territorial integrity. Two days after the formation of the Interim Council headed by Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, Tehran annouced official recognition of the new administration.

The editorial said in conclusion that Iran has been generous in helping the Afghan people and has promised further aid to the war- stricken people of the country.

Red Crescent Outlines Aid Operations

LD0205112392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 2 May 92

[Excerpt] The Red Crescent of the Islamic Republic of Iran has donated 500 million rials worth of provisions to help the war afflicted and flood hit people of Afghanistan.

At a new conference, Mr. Vahid Dastjerdi, president of the Red Crescent of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said: The Red Crescent also provided help to Afghanistan during previous years. He added: The Red Crescent of the Islamic Republic of Iran has set up a clinic in Herat equipped with the necessary means. It has also set up a camp to extend hospitality to those who travel to and from Afghanistan.

Mr. Vahid Dastjerdi referred to efforts of the Red Crescent of the Islamic Republic of Iran in receiving help from the International Red Cross Federation and sending them to the people of Afghanistan as well as to the help given to the UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees. He then added: The people of Afghanistan, especially those in the border provinces including Nimur, Herat and Farah, are suffering from severe shortages of fuel, food, and medicine. The Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to bring help to them rapidly. [passage omitted]

Reaction to Unrest, Violence in Los Angeles

Rafsanjani Sees Hypocrisy

LD0205110192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 2 May 92

[Excerpts] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani today, the first day of Teachers Week, met model teachers from all over the country. He expressed appreciation for the role of teachers in the country's reconstruction. He described the increase of 26 percent and 36 percent in the number of candidates at teacher training centers and teacher training colleges as an indication that society welcomes the occupation of teacher. [passage omitted]

The president said that women make up one-half of the country's model teachers and noted: Muslim and committed women stayed away during the former regime because of the social conditions at that time. But now, around 50 percent of model teachers are women. The Education Ministry is satisfied with women's work in the managerial and teaching sections. [passage omitted]

The president also noted the rebellion against injustice by the oppressed in America. He said: These reports are quite revealing. America claims to support human rights and democracy and uses that matter as a pretext to interfere in other countries' affairs, but is itself in need of reforms, more than other countries. Human rights activists and the Red Cross should put aside other parts of the world and attend to America.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed that a large part of American society has rebelled. The spirit of the issue is lack of social justice and the clear existence of oppression, which has brimmed over from people's hearts. One spark has caused it to explode.

The president said: Let us say, for example, that the same thing had happened in an African country. Then American radio and television networks and that country's press would have engaged the minds of their own people with analysis and comments about those peoples' ignorance, about police rule in that country and about other similar issues for a long time. They would not have spoken about injustice and peoples' problems.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The American Government has assigned the victorious commander of the Persian Gulf to suppress the rebellion of the dissatisfied in America. But, of course, the people do understand. [passage omitted]

U.S. 'Decayed From Inside'

LD0205115592 Tehran IRNA in English 1004 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA—Three morning dailies Saturday commented on the widespread protest in America in the wake of brutal beating of the black Los Angeles citizen Rodney King by four white cops with all papers blaming the U.S. Administration for racial discrimination.

The Persian daily 'ABRAR' in a commentary said that the protests in the U.S. and the severe reaction of the police revealed that Washington is decayed from inside and that a destiny similar to that of the former Soviet Union is awaiting it.

The U.S. Administration, regardless of being run by democrats or republicans, is such that the rights of the weak are violated. The violent protests which started in Los Angeles are the outcome of such a policy.

ABRAR deplored that certain Iranian media have referred to the widespread anti-racial protests in the U.S. as 'riots'.

This lenient attitude is adopted at a time when only a few days ago Washington once again accused Iran of backing terrorism and renewed its propaganda warfare against Tehran.

The other Persian daily 'JOMHURI ESLAMI' said in its editorial that America is once again being recognized as the symbol of arrogance, racism and crime against humanity.

The U.S., whose hands are stained with the blood of nations, brands others as criminals while it portrays itself as the upholder of the banner of freedom, justice and human rights.

What is going on in America these days will be recorded in the contemporary history as an "unforgettable phenomenon."

The unfair verdict of a U.S. court led to a series of incidents which can become a prelude to a chain of events throughout the U.S.

The U.S. system has now come under question. The explosion of the wrath of the American people indicates that even the U.S. citizens no more believe in such foolish lies.

Let all opponents of American racism be introduced as proponents of terrorism and violators of human rights-...but the revolt of nations and the wrath of masses in the very heart of the U.S. can, in a matter of few hours, foil the years-long propaganda of the world arrogance, concluded JOMHURI.

On the same subject the editorial in the English daily 'KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL' said, "what makes America race relations intolerable and worse than that of South Africa is that in the latter racism is institutionalized and amounts to a way of life, whereas in America, with the growing civil rights movements, it is supposed to either not exist or exist at a low level."

"Also, the frustration or wound resulting from American racism is deeper and more bothersome because America preaches racial equality and lessons in human rights to the world but does not practice it."

Racism in America is no longer overt...But in practice it might exist with even more intensity than before.

The motorist Rodney King's case has served to bring renewed attention to the unhappy lot of black Americans and 'miscarriage of justice' toward them.

"Justice will not be realized as long as the blacks have not relinquished their cynicism of the system and have not got involved in politics, using the weight of their 25 million-strong force, concluded the editorial.

Iranian-Owned Shops Damaged

LD0205114792 Tehran IRNA in English 1011 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] New York, May 2, IRNA—No Iranian national has been hurt in the recent street violence in Los Angeles, California, but a number of Iranian businesses and shops have sustained heavy damage.

An informed news source in Los Angeles told IRNA here Friday that for safety reasons Iranians did not allow their children to attend schools in the area.

Street violence was spread to Beverly Hills and Orange County, two districts where some Iranians reside, but police said it was in control of the area. However, two stores selling computers and household appliances, run by Iranians, were set ablaze and turned to debris in Beverly Hills.

Meanwhile, stores owned by Iranians in Westwood region in Los Angeles were all closed Friday.

An Iranian resident of Los Angeles said that although the angry blacks have not been hostile towards Iranians, Iranians were trying to keep out of the troubled areas.

Most Iranians residing in America live in Los Angeles and the nearby towns. Although no figure is available on the number Iranians in America, according to unofficial estimates some 500,000 Iranian live in the state of California.

Rafsanjani Comments

LD0305111192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 3 May 92

[Excerpts] The seminar commemorating the martyrdom anniversary of Ayatollah Mottahari opened today in Tehran, attended by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. [passage omitted]

In his remarks, the president commented on the events of the past few days in America, notably in Los Angeles. He said: Today, the world is witnessing a total infringement of human rights in a country which for years claimed to be democratic and an adherent of human rights. Today, America has lost the banner which it had usurped and carried as a means of firing slogans against Iran.

Concluding his remarks, the president said: To save itself from its present plight and to suppress the blacks' movement against racism, America is trying to cast the pitiful and oppressive lives of the African blacks in the teeth of its own blacks and protestors, but people all over the world are aware that the reason for the misfortune and backwardness of the African people is nothing other than American colonialist policies.

Bush Presidency Threatened

LD0305130192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1010 GMT 3 May 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Despite sporadic clashes, the wave of violent protests and bloody unrest which began in Los Angeles and spread to other American cities seems to be under control after 5 days.

Still, the issue of containing the protests in American cities is preoccupying White House politicians. The American President, George Bush, in order to suppress the protests, ordered in the Army and the federal police. To control inflamed emotions, the U.S. Attorney General will take over Rodney King's case, conducting an independent investigation. Rodney King is a black man who was beaten by the police. The acquittal of his assailants by the court created the spark which ignited the current protest in America.

George Bush has tried to display a powerful image against the protests while depicting himself as a justice seeking supporter of human rights. George Bush's efforts in confronting the crisis that besieges him could affect his status as president. It is also capable of affecting the status of the Republican Party, which has chosen George Bush as the future president. On this basis, the current U.S. crisis must be regarded as a disaster for George Bush and the Republican Party.

Efforts have been made to blame the protests in American cities on blacks alone and to say that they are restricted to protests against the court decision. But, the participation of many whites in the protests and the way the protests resulted in the looting of shops are evidence of a deep crisis whose roots are in social inequalities. The existence of these inequalities has caused critics of U.S. policies to call for that country's statesmen to pay more attention to internal issues. They believe that during three Republican administrations in America, under the Presidency of George Bush and his predecessor Reagan, the country's resources have been spent more on the exorbitant expenses precipitated by expansionist U.S. foreign policy rather that put to use providing for internal requirements. In its wake came America's recession, which is lowering the level of social welfare and putting pressure on the poor strata and those with low income in American community.

The events in Los Angeles, beside being unfavorable for George Bush and his party from an internal point of view, are a factor in destroying America's world image. This is because the events mar America's international image as the country which claims to be in the world's vanguard regarding the rule of law and maintaining human rights.

The issue of Rodney King's assailants' trial raises this question: Is this the first instance of a black's rights being ignored? Many believe that events such as this are rife in the American community but only rarely are examples revealed and judged by public opinion. Although, legally and officially, discrimination cannot be found in America, considering the prevailing conditions in that community, discrimination in various forms is actively carried out against social groups. Amnesty International, in its reaction to the acquittal of the four American policemen, has declared, with some surprise, that it possesses many documents on the widespread existence of such events in America. One American civil right activist has announced that the American judiciary system is deficient and cannot establish justice.

All this seriously raises this question: Is America being honest in her claim of endeavoring to establish the rule of law and the observance of human rights? Considering the negative effects of the American people's protests against the prevailing policies in that country, it must be said that while electoral rivals and their parties use any pretext to attack their opponents in the looming Presidential election campaign, the current unrest is capable

of undermining the Republican Party's candidate, George Bush, and strengthening his rival.

Khomeyni on U.S. 'Injustice'

LD0405102892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Morad Babayev, Prosecutor-General of the Republic of Azerbaijan, who is visiting our country at the head of a judicial delegation at the invitation of the Islamic Republic of Iran's prosecutor general, met Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Ahmad Khomeyni today. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Ahmad Khomeyni expressed his pleasure at the visit by the Azerbaijani judicial delegation, and, stressing the need for the expansion of judicial cooperation between Iran and Azerbaijan, said: We believe that Islamic rules must replace the current judicial regulations of Muslim countries. Expansion of judicial cooperation between Islamic countries will bring about a more active role for Islamic courts in international circles.

Referring to the turbulent situation in the United States and the extensive protests in that country over the violation of citizens' rights, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Ahmad Khomeyni said the following about the unjust ways in which the American judicial system handles judicial matters: The American people's current protests and riots are a consequence of the injustice committed by that country's judicial machinery with respect to people's rights. Those who falsely pretend to be defenders of human rights and who issue unjust resolutions to deal with Islamic countries have shown no reaction in defense of the rights of American citizens.

The prosecutor general of the Republic of Azerbaijan said: We want to lay the foundations for our independence and have an independent and Islamic judicial system. We therefore chose to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran on our first foreign visit since independence because we consider Iran to be a like-minded brother country.

Rafsanjani Receives Hizballah Leader Nasrallah

NC0405065692 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Hojjat-ol Eslam Shaykh Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic republic, received in Tehran yesterday the Hizballah delegation currently visiting Iran under the leadership of Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah. Islamic Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati attended the meeting.

Discussions revolved around the latest developments in the region, the continuing conspiracies against Islamic awakening, and the need for complete alertness to confront these conspiracies.

President Shaykh Hashemi-Rafsanjani affirmed Iran's support for the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories and the Islamic Resistance in southern Lebanon and western al-Biqa'.

Shaykh Hashemi-Rafsanjani discussed current developments, specifically those that proved the Islamic republic's proper and correct stands, as well as affirming the rights of Muslims in the region. He does not believe the so-called peace negotiations have achieved anything yet. He added that these negotiations have allowed the enemy to expand its designs even further.

President Accepts Invitation to Visit Turkmenistan

LD0305102592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani received Turkmenistan Vice President Atta Charyyev this morning. Charyyev presented the written message of his country's president formally inviting our country's president to take part in a session of heads of the Asian countries.

Turkmenistan's vice president presented the written message of his country's president and said: The expansion of relations between the Republic of Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran is progressing on a very satisfactory path. We hope to see further expanion and deepening of the two countries' relations and cooperation, particularly in trade and road transportation.

He referred to the session of the heads of the Asian countries which will be held in the Republic of Turkmenistan in the near future. He said: All the heads of the Central Asian countries attach particular significance to the participation of Iran in that session. They hope to be able to benefit from the Islamic Republic of Iran's invaluable experience in various global issues.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani then thanked the president of Turkmenistan for his message of invitation. He said: With regard to the existence of many satisfactory grounds for cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the newly independent countries, we have always welcomed the expansion of cooperation with them.

The president of our country accepted the invitation of the president of Turkmenistan to visit that country and expressed the hope that after the completion of that visit, the trend of the expansion of relations and cooperation between the two countries will grow even further.

Velayati, Turkmen Deputy Hold Talks

LD0305105892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] The deputy foreign minister of Turkmenistan in a meeting with Foreign Minister Velayati today remarked on Iran's significant role in Central Asia. Laying emphasis on the need to enhance cooperation between the Central Asian

countries and the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] in order to strengthen regional cooperation, he described the participation of our country's president in the forthcoming Central Asian summit session as important.

Expressing his satisfaction with the fruitful cooperation between Iran and the Republic of Turmenistan in oil and gas affairs, commercial road, air, and sea links, agricultural exchanges, consulate affairs, and facilitating the transit of goods, the Turkmen deputy foreign minister called for the expansion of trade between the two countries' provinces.

Mr. Velayati, having expressed his satisfaction with the growing ties between the two countries and the progress achieved in terms of implementing the previous contracts, stressed the need to strengthen cooperation in Central Asia, saying that the IRI will employ all its resources to that end.

In the meeting the two sides also announced agreement on a convention for a joint Irano-Turkmen economic commission.

Velayati Receives Islamic Conference Official

LD0405103292 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Mr. Salehbakr, political undersecretary of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], met with Foreign Minister Velayati, this morning. In the meeting, he thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its active role in resolving the problems of the Islamic world, especially the 14-year old Afghan crisis. He stressed the need for unity among the Afghan mojahedin groups. He added: At Iran's request, the ICO has taken steps to aid in the resolution of the crises in Karabakh and the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Mr. Velayati pointed to the problems of the world's Islamic community, outlined Iran's efforts to resolve these crises and called on the ICO to increase their activities to that end.

Mr. Velayati termed the Muslims' ascendancy in Afghanistan a great victory for the world of Islam, remarking on the Afghan Muslim nation's liberation from foreign domination.

Mr. Velayati called on the ICO and all Islamic countries to participate seriously in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, referring to His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i's message to the Afghan Muslim nation .

Mr Velayati also said: Iran's mediation in the Karabkah issue has been in response to the request by the protagonists. We will continue our efforts to resolve that crisis.

Our country's foreign minister stressed the need to halt the attacks against the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Yugoslav Charge Summoned Over Izebegovic Arrest

LD0305164492 Tehran IRNA in English 1618 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA—The Yugoslav charge d'affaires in Iran was summoned to the Foreign Ministry here today, and was told of the "grave concern" of the Islamic Republic of Iran over the detention of the legal president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Republic Alija Izetbegovic by the Serbian forces, supported by the Federal Army.

Foreign Ministry Director General for East Europe Morteza Bank asked the charge d'affaires to convey Iran's "concern" to his government for serious measures for the "immediate release" of President Izetbegovic.

"The positive measure of the Yugoslavian Government in this regard could have a positive impact on the future of the two countries relations," Bank made it clear.

It was also stressed in the meeting that the safety and immediate release of Izetbegovic is what the Muslims want.

Izetbegovic, his daughter and some other officials of the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina were datained by the Federal Army upon arrival from Portugal at the Sarajevo airport on Saturday.

Peshmergas Attack Kifri in Reprisal for 'Massacre'

LD0205113792 Tehran IRNA in English 1009 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] W. Azerbaijan, May 2, IRNA—The Kurdish Peshmergas attacked Iraqi troops positions in suburbs of 'Kifri', southern Iraq, killing and injuring a number of Iraqi forces and exploding their ammunition depot, said Radio of Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan here Saturday.

The radio, monitored here, added that the attacks were in retaliation for the recent attacks of the Iraqi Army on positions of the Kurdish Peshmergas and massacre of the Kurds in the area. The report did not specify the time of the attacks.

According to the radio, the Iraqi helicopters shelled areas around Basra, Amara and Nasiriya killing and wounding many civilians.

Interior Ministry Ready to Hold Elections 8 May

LD0305124192 Tehran IRNA in English 0939 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA—An official at the Interior Ministry here Sunday [3 May] said the ministry was ready to hold the nationwide run-off elections for the fourth term of the 270-seat Majlis in 81 constituencies on May 8.

Head of the elections headquarters Lotfollah Saghravani said that by 24:00 hours Wednesday, May 6, election campaigns will have to stop.

The elections will start at 08:00 hours Friday and according to the election law will continue for 10 hours. However, he added, a shorter period of time will be needed to count the ballots and thus the results will be released sooner than the April 10 elections.

Some 268 candidates started campaign last Thursday for the remaining 134 seats in the 270-seat Majlis.

The fourth Majlis will formally start work May 28.

'Victory-3' Naval Exercises Continue in Gulf

LD0105110192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 1 May 92

[Central News Unit correspondent reports]

[Text] On the seventh day of the Victory-3 exercises and in continuation of the tactical stage of the exercises, the Army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC]'s naval vessels succeeded, with air cover from the swift flying pilots of the Air Force and from air to sea missile units, in controlling traffic in the crystal blue waters of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman and in tracking the enemy and its supporting agents and in preventing them from penetrating into the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

During this stage, the swift flying pilots of the Air Force destroyed the enemy's ground positions and set ablaze its naval jetties and installations. The exercises continued with air units and anti-ship and anti-surface helicopters carrying out constant patrols in order to control any possible submarine or scuba diving operations by the enemy, and then fired on the hypothetical crewless submarines of the enemy.

During this stage, electronic warfare units discovered and disrupted the enemy's radio signals and gained mastery over all communications. The exercises continued with ground combat units penetrating into the depths of the hypothetical enemy's coastal positions.